

THE REMARKABLE  
TRYAL  
OF  
*THOMAS CHANDLER,*  
Late of Clifford's Inn, London, Gent.

Who was tried and convicted at the Lent Assizes at *Reading*, 1750, before Mr. Baron *CLIVE*, for wilful and corrupt Perjury, in swearing that he was robbed of fifteen Bank Notes of the Value of 960*l.* 5 Guineas in Gold, 20*s.* and upwards in Silver, and a Silver Watch, on the 24th of March 1747, between *Hare-Hatch* and *Twyford* in *Berkshire*, in the Road to *Reading*, by Three Men on Foot.

To which is added,

(At the Request of the High Sheriff and Grand Jury of the County of Berks.)

An Introductory ACCOUNT of the LIFE of the said Mr. *CHANDLER*, From the Time of his going Clerk to an Attorney, to the Time of his Conviction, and of the several Steps taken by the Prosecutors in order to bring him to Justice.

CONTAINING, (amongst many other Particulars)

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|---|---|
| I. His being put Clerk to Mr. <i>Banks</i> , and his Marriage with his Master's Maid in the Fleet.  | whereby the Verdict was afterwards set aside.   |
| II. His being turned over to Mr. <i>Hill</i> , and his artful Deception of his Master and Father in order to raise 1000 <i>l.</i>   | VII. His getting a Protection from Lord <i>W----by de B---</i> , and absconding soon after the Tryal to <i>Colebeſter</i> , and keeping an Inn there. |
| III. His Method of getting Security for the 1000 <i>l.</i> in <i>Wilts</i> , and his pretending to be robbed of the fifteen Bank Notes, &c. as he was going down with them. | VIII. His going from <i>Colebeſter</i> to <i>Holland</i> , and selling the remaining twelve Notes, by the Name of <i>John Smith</i> .                 |
| IV. His circulating three of the Bank Notes in <i>London</i> soon after the pretended Robbery.  | IX. The extraordinary Manner in which he was pursued through the County of <i>Suffolk</i> , occasioned by an artful Direction of his Letters.         |
| V. His Manner of suing the Hundred of <i>Sonning</i> , and recovering a Verdict at the ensuing Assizes at <i>Abingdon</i> for 975 <i>l.</i>                                 | X. His removing from <i>Colebeſter</i> to <i>Coventry</i> , and keeping another Inn there.  |
| VI. Remarks on his Case, and on the Tryal, and Point of Law reserved,   | XI. His being taken at <i>Coventry</i> by a Judge's Warrant, on a Bill of Indictment for Perjury being found against him.                             |

Let a sudden Destruction come upon him unawares, and his Net, which he hath laid privily, catch himself; that he may fall into his own Mischief, Psal. xxxv. 8.

Perjurios merito Perjuraria fallunt.

Neque enim Lex æquior ulla,  
Quam Necis Artifices Arte perire suā. OVID. De Arte Amandi.

By EDWARD WISE, Gent. Attorney at Law at *Wokingham, Berks.*

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**T**HE High Sheriff, Gentlemen of the Grand Jury, and other Gentlemen under-named, who dined together the last Day of the Assizes, being sensible of the great Trouble and Expence Mr. *Wise* had been at in carrying on this Prosecution for upwards of two Years, opened a Subscription in order to re-imburse him his Expences; and proposed that a Subscription Paper, with the Names of those Gentlemen who have already subscribed, should be handed about by his Friends to the rest of the Gentlemen in the Country: And at the same Time requested him to publish Mr. *Chandler's Tryal, &c.*

**ALEXANDER WALKER, Esq; High Sheriff.**

<i>Penyston Powney, Esq;</i>	* <i>The Rev. John Waterman, Clerk.</i>
<i>John Dodd, Esq;</i>	<i>Hen. Lanoy Hunter, Esq;</i>
<i>William Barker, Esq;</i>	<i>Richard Allen, Esq;</i>
* <i>Edward Pauncefort, Esq;</i>	* <i>The Rev. William Etwall, Clerk.</i>
<i>Peter Floyer, Esq;</i>	<i>Thomas Young, Esq;</i>
* <i>Lawrence Head Osgood, Esq;</i>	<i>Robert Blanch, Gent.</i>
<i>Humphry Adams, Esq;</i>	* <i>Will. Brookland, Gent.</i>
* <i>Richard Teale, Esq;</i>	* <i>Harry Austin Deane, Gent.</i>
<i>John Breedon, Esq;</i>	<i>Joel Stephens, Gent.</i>
<i>Benjamin Cbild, Esq;</i>	* <i>Richard Simeon, Gent.</i>

**N. B. Those Gentlemen, whose Names have an Asterisk prefixed, were not of the Grand Jury.**

## A D D E N D A.

After the first Letter to Mr. Wiseman read the following:

Soon after Mr. *Wiseman* received this Letter, he sent to acquaint me with the Contents; and I persuaded him not to write any Answer to it, for that I should soon be in *London*, and would endeavour to see Mr. *Haldanby Moore* myself, which I accordingly did; when he told me and Mr. *Hill*, who went with me, that Mr. *R*— (Mr. *Chandler's* Attorney) had been several times with him in order to procure proper Witnesses to prove such pretended Felony in *Middlesex*, and to get a Writ of *Habeas Corpus* to remove Mr. *Chandler*; and that then he would take care to get Persons who would undertake to rescue him in the Manner before mention'd: That Mr. *R*— had actually given him one Guinea by way of Retainer, had promised him two more on the Indictment's being found, and seven more on the issuing out of the Writ of *Habeas Corpus*; but that he scorn'd to be concern'd in any such vile Action, and therefore wrote to Mr. *Wiseman*, and would certainly indite Mr. *R*— and the other Persons who came with him for Subornation of Perjury, at the next Sessions at the *Old Bailey*.

T H E  
**Remarkable TRYAL**  
 O F  
*THOMAS CHANDLER,*  
 Late of *Clifford's Inn, London, Gent.*

**I**F Accounts, when authentick, even of Rogues who have only made a little more than ordinary Figure in their Way, have (for that Reason alone) been frequently thought pleasing to the Publick, the Life of a Person of so great a Genius as Mr. *Chandler*, so young, and yet so artful in laying of his Plans, so cool and deliberate in every Step he took towards carrying them into Execution, and so admirably well qualified in every other Respect to perpetrate any iniquitous Scheme whatever; a Person, whose Prosecution has been productive of no less than two Acts of Parliament\*: The Life, I say, of such a Person (so far as from the Time of his first laying the following wicked Scheme, to the Time of his Conviction) with the great Variety of Circumstances, and the many surprizing Incidents which happened (during that Space of Time) naturally accounted for, and faithfully related, cannot (I flatter myself) fail of meeting with such a Reception, as will at least justify its Publication.

\* An Act for remedying Inconveniences which may happen by Proceedings in Actions on the Statutes of Hue and Cry.

An Act to render Prosecutions for Perjury and Subornation of Perjury more easy and effectual.

MR. CHANDLER, who is the principal Subject of the following Sheets, is the only Child of Mr. Thomas Chandler, a Gentleman-Farmer of about 200*l.* a Year, at *Woodborrough* near the *Devizes* in *Wiltshire*; who, when his Son, Mr. Chandler, was about sixteen or seventeen Years of Age, (and which was about the Year 1743) recommended him to the Care of one Mr. Romman, (a Gentleman who had an Estate at *Woodborrough*, but resided in *London*) and requested the Favour of him to find out some Attorney in the City, whom he thought would make a proper Master for his said Son; and accordingly Mr. Romman waited on several Gentlemen of the Law for that Purpose, and after some short Time fixed him with Mr. Banks, who then was, and I believe still is, Clerk to the *Goldsmiths* Company. Mr. Chandler had not been long here, before he fell violently in Love with his Master's Maid, and in less than a Twelvemonth was married to her in the *Fleet*. About a Year after this unfortunate Marriage, Mr. Banks and Mr. Chandler had frequent Disputes, which at length came to a downright Quarrel, insomuch that it was agreed on all Sides to part. What was the Cause of this Quarrel I do not know; only think it proper to take notice, that his Marriage with the Maid-Servant was not; for neither Mr. Banks, nor his next Master Mr. Hill, ever dreamt of or suspected his being married. He had now served about two Years of his Clerkship with Mr. Banks, when by the Consent of all his Friends he was turn'd over to Mr. William Hill, an Attorney at *Clifford's Inn* in *Fleet street*, who had been deservedly recommended to them, not only as a Gentleman of good Practice, and a fair Character, but as a Person also of so much Good-nature, that it must have been entirely Mr. Chandler's own Fault if ever he had wanted a third Master. Mr. Chandler, being now settled

settled with Mr. *Hill*, soon procured a convenient Lodging in *Fleet street*; and at this very Time having his Wife and Child at Lodgings in the City near his first Master's, contrived with so great Art and Secrecy to remove them to his Lodgings in *Fleet street*, and there to maintain and keep them during the Remainder of his Clerkship with Mr. *Hill*, as not to be in the least suspected. In this manner he served Mr. *Hill* as his Clerk for the Space of two Years, with so much Diligence and Sobriety, that he was now become not only respected by his Master, but by all his Master's Clients. Mr. *Hill*, being about this Time concerned for old Mr. *Chandler* in a long-contested Law-Suit, made over all the Profits in the Father's Cause to the Son; which the Son made no small Advantage of, as the Father very readily paid what the Son was pleased to charge.

We now see Mr. *Chandler* enter'd into the last Year of his Clerkship; and being in so great Credit, not only with his Master and his Clients, (as has been before observed) but also with his Father, and having some Cash in his Pocket, he thought this a proper Time to enter upon the most complicated and iniquitous Scheme that perhaps ever enter'd into the Head of so young a Person to undertake; no less a Scheme than that of getting into his Possession as large a Sum of Money as he possibly could by any means contrive to do, and then to pretend to be robbed of it, and by that means double the Sum (whatever it might be) at the Expence of some Hundred or other, wherein it best suited his Purpose to be robb'd.

In the Planning of this wicked Scheme, he found that he had two Persons to deceive, before he could possibly raise any considerable Sum, and that those were his Father and his Master. The first Step that he took for this Purpose was about the latter

latter End of the Summer 1747, when he had not more than half a Year to serve of his Clerkship. He then went down to *Woodborrough* to see his Father, and told him that he had lately been down into *Suffolk* on Busines for his Master, where he had met with an agreeable young Lady, who had a very rich Uncle, and who would (he believed) make him a very good Wife; and that if he (the Father) would make over to him the small Estate which was his Mother's, (and which was not worth above 400*l.*) and put him into Possession of it, he would then venture to make his Addresses, and did not in the least doubt of Success. This Bait the Father swallowed immediately, and sent the Writings of the Estate up by him to his Master *Hill*, in order to have the same directly done; which Mr. *Hill* assisted the Son in doing, and the proper Writings were afterwards executed by the Father about *Christmas* 1747. He afterwards told his Master, (Mr. *Hill*) That, as he was now near out of his Clerkship, he intended to go and live with a rich Uncle of his in *Suffolk*, (as soon as his Time was out) on whom, he said, he had a great Dependence, and to whom he pretended to make frequent Visits; and shew'd Mr. *Hill* some Bank Notes, which he said were given him by his said Uncle. It is hardly to be conceived that so young a Person as Mr. *Chandler*, who had at this very Time a real Wife and Child at Lodgings in *Fleet-street*, should ever think of deceiving his Father by so odd a Stratagem, as pretending to marry a fictitious one in *Suffolk*, and amusing his Master with an Account of a rich Uncle in that Part of the World, where, it will appear hereafter, that at that very Time he had no Friend or Relation whatsoever; but that his several Journeys into *Suffolk* were in order to secure a proper Retreat in that Country, after he had gone through his intended Scheme

in this. Mr. *Chandler* being now (some how or other) possessed of near 500*l.* in Cash, applied to his Master Mr. *Hill* to advance him 500*l.* more on his own Estate, in order to make up 1000*l.* (as he pretended) he was going to lend to one Mrs. *Strait* at *Salisbury*, on Mortgage of an Estate at *Enford* in *Wilts*, within about six or seven Miles of his Father's House, and on which Estate there was a prior Mortgage of 500*l.* and Interest due to one Mr. *Poore* of *Enford*, who wanted his Money in. Mr. *Hill* placing great Confidence in his Clerk, and believing the Account he gave him, as well in his Particular, as in respect to the Value of his own Estate, applied to Mr. *Winter*, (a Client of his) who readily agreed to lend the Money: And whilst Mr. *Hill* was preparing this Mortgage for his Client *Winter*, (and not before) Mr. *Chandler* went down to *Salisbury*, and offer'd to lend Mrs. *Strait* 1000*l.* upon her Estate, which he before knew she would be glad of, she having often applied for a less Sum, and could not get any body to advance it; and, though it was now the 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> of *March* 1747, engaged to meet Mrs. *Strait* at a Publick House at *Enford* with the Money on the 25<sup>th</sup> of the same Month, being *Lady-Day*; and desired her to send to Mr. *Poore*, that he might attend then likewise to receive his Money. Mr. *Chandler* (at this very Time never intending to lend the Money) was not very scrupulous about Mrs. *Strait's* Title to this Estate; for he never saw any other Deed or Writing relating to it, than the Counter-part of Mr. *Poore's* Mortgage, nor had he any other Instructions to make his own pretended Mortgage by: And as to Mr. *Poore's* being willing, or not willing, to receive his Money at so short Notice, (as he was pretty sure it would not be there for him) he was not at all anxious about that neither, but returned to Town again in as great a

Hurry

Hurry as he went down; and immediately prepared a proper Assignment of Mr. Poore's Mortgage to himself, with proper Receipts to be sign'd and executed by the Parties; and, lest Mrs. Strait should happen to forget the Day, (*Lady-Day*) he wrote her a Letter from London to desire her not to fail being at *Enford* by Ten o'Clock in the Morning on the *Friday* following, being *Lady-Day* 1748; and told her that he, for his part, would certainly meet her there with all the Money. By this time his Master *Hill* had finished Mr. *Chandler*'s Mortgage of his own Estate to Mr. *Winter*; and on Tuesday the 22d of March 1747, Mr. *Chandler* went to dine with Mr. *Winter* at his House in *Dartmouth-Street, Westminster*, and there executed the Mortgage, and received his 500*l.* in three Bank Notes only, and the next Day, being the 23d, went with these three Notes to the Bank, and received for them eight Notes for 50*l.* each, and five for 20*l.* each, all of that Date, and payable to *Henry Taylor*.

On the 24th in the Morning early, being the unfortunate Morning Mr. *Chandler* set out in order to be robbed, having got all his Cash amounting to near 900*l.* in small Bills, none for more than 50*l.* and the greatest Part of them for 20*l.* and thinking they would take up too much Room (as he pretended to his Master) under his Garters, where he intended to place them, Mr. *Chandler* took fourteen of the Notes for 20*l.* each, one other for 20*l.* 18*s.*, one other for 23*l.*, and one other for 26*l.*, in all 349*l.* 18*s.* and which with 90*l.* 2*s.* in Cash, making together 440*l.* he paid into the Bank, and took out for it two Notes of that Date payable to *Thomas Brown*, viz. N°. 2. for 400*l.* and N°. 3. for 40*l.* and as he came from the Bank, call'd in at Sir *Richard Hoare*'s Shop, and in his Master's Name changed the Note N°. 2. 400*l.* for three

Notes of the same Value; and then came to his Master's Chambers, and desired him to take down the Numbers, Dates, &c. of these four last Notes, and add them to the List, he having before, at Mr. *Chandler*'s Desire, taken an Account of all the rest of the Bank Notes; telling him at the same Time, he had only the 40*l.* Note at the Bank, for that there was a Person in the Bank Hall who wanted just 400*l.* in small Notes for three large ones, and (as the Clerks of the Bank seemed a little out of Humour at his coming so often, first for small Notes and then for large) he made an Exchange with this Person, but could not tell who he was. And as soon as Mr. *Hill* had taken the Numbers and Dates, &c. of these four last Notes, and added them to the List, and seen them put safe up, Mr. *Chandler* set out about Twelve of the Clock of the same Day, with the fifteen following Bank Notes, *viz.*

	To		£.
1 N°. 98.	Thomas Tendal, March 4, 1747,	—	50
2 — 144.	James Reynolds, Dec. 21, 1747,	—	40
3 — 187.	George Wolley, Feb. 11, 1747,	—	30
4 — 234.	Henry Taylor, March 23, 1747,	—	50
5 — 235.	Ditto, ditto,	—	50
6 — 236.	Ditto, ditto,	—	50
7 — 237.	Ditto, ditto,	—	50
8 — 238.	Ditto, ditto,	—	50
9 — 239.	Ditto, ditto,	—	50
10 — 340.	Ditto, ditto,	—	50
11 — 341.	Ditto, ditto,	—	50
12 — 102.	Mess. Freame and Co. Jan. 28, 1747,	—	200
13 — 195.	Matth. Collet, Nov. 28, 1747,	—	100
14 — 196.	Ditto, ditto,	—	100
15 — 3.	Thomas Brown, March 24, 1747,	—	40

Mr. *Chandler* (notwithstanding he had so great a Charge about him, and at least ninety Miles to travel in so few Hours) was observed to be walking Hand in Hand with a common Strumpet in Maid-

*denhead Lane*, and had got no further than *Hare-Hatch* (about thirty Miles from *London*) at half an Hour after Five at Night, although he had appointed to meet Mrs. *Straite* at *Enford* the next Day by Ten in the Morning, who was to come in a Chariot from *Salisbury*, seventeen Miles, and to return in the Evening: But Mr. *Chandler* (being now come near to the fatal Pit) was unfortunately met and robb'd of his Money and Watch, by three Bargemen on foot, whom (according to his own very exact and particular Description of them) he had but just before pass'd on the Road in *Maidenhead Thicket*, and who, after they had robb'd him, had him into a Pit close by the Road, and there took from him all his Bank Notes, and bound him, and left him there bound. Now though the Place he lay in the Pit was so near the Road that he might have heard every Carriage or Person that went by, (and as it is so great a Road, Numbers of People must necessarily go by after that Time) yet he chose to continue in this miserable Situation for near three Hours, and until it was quite dark, for fear that the Robbers (if he had called for Assistance) should have return'd and murder'd him; which was the Reason, he said, why he laid so snug in the Pit all this time. However, being now compleatly robb'd, and miraculously escaped out of the Pit with his Legs and Arms tied, and this too without the Assistance of any one Person, Mr. *Chandler*, (notwithstanding his great Fright, and the immoderate Fatigue he had undergone in the Pit, in struggling and straining himself for so long a Space of Time as two Hours before he could get upon his Legs, and the surprizing Difficulty he afterwards met with, even then, to get out of the Pit) had no sooner done all this, but he jump'd with his Arms tied behind him, and his Legs tied across, for near half a Mile, all up Hill,

in the great Road, without making any the least Noise, or calling for Assistance, until he heard a Horse trotting towards him; but then he call'd out lustily to the Person on the Horse, telling him that he had been robb'd and bound. The Person was Mr. *Whitfield* of *Wargrave*, who, as he had rode very gently on the Road, and not having heard him before, took him for a *Bite*, and so pass'd him, telling him there were Houses within a hundred Yards further. But this did not serve Mr. *Chandler*'s Purpose; he was to be untied in the dark, that no Person might see in what manner he was tied; and, very luckily for him, one *John Avery* (a poor harmless Shepherd, Servant to Mr. *Abear* in that Neighbourhood) was the next Person that came by, who was a very silly Fellow, yet had Sense enough (with Mr. *Chandler*'s Directions) to cut the Strings that tied his Hands and Legs; but how or in what manner he was tied, or what Sort of a String it was that he was tied with, he could not tell; but did say, that as soon as Mr. *Chandler* was loose, he (Mr. *Chandler*) stooped down to pick it up, whatever it was: And the next Morning, at the very Spot where the Shepherd released him, was found a Piece of Tape of about four Inches in Length, of the same Kind (I suppose) which his pretended Mortgage was tied up with.

No sooner was Mr. *Chandler* released, but the very first Question he asked *John Avery* was, whether any Constable or Tything-man lived any where thereabouts. *Avery* told him, *Richard Kelly*, who was the Constable, lived just by, between the Place where he had released him and Mr. *Butter's*, who keeps the Inn at *Hare-Hatch*, which was within sixty Yards. He then immediately went with *Avery* to *Kelly* the Constable's, and there (in Compliance with the Statute of the 8<sup>th</sup> *Geo. II.*) left with the Constable such a proper Notice in Writing as

is required by the said Statute, besides the Notice required by the Statute of the 27<sup>th</sup> Eliz. to be given to the Inhabitants; and which, notwithstanding the Publick House was so near, and he must necessarily want some Refreshment, he had staid a considerable Time in the Constable's House to reduce into Writing himself: And therein he described the Manner in which he was robbed, the several Things which he was robbed of, and particularly the Persons of the three Men that robbed him (whom he took for Bargemen) in so exact and circumstantial a Manner, that the same three Men (answering as to Age, Size, Shape, and Make, and in every other Respect, Mr. Chandler's Description with the greatest Exactness) were seen between Four and Five that Afternoon by Mr. Dredge, then Mayor of *Reading*, on *Maidenhead Thicket*, who knew one of them, and gave them a Shilling to drink, and (about an Hour after the Time Mr. Chandler pretended he was robb'd) were observed also by Mr. Young, who lives at *Hare Hatch*, as they passed by his House towards *Reading*. It is natural to suppose, that when Mr. Chandler passed these three Men on the *Thicket*, (as the Statute of the 8<sup>th</sup> Geo. II. requires as particular Description of the Robbers as possible) he took his Idea of his three imaginary Robbers from these three real Men; and this he did so very exactly, as to take notice that the tall Fellow had a blue Beard, and was clean shaved, as he said afterwards at Mr. Butter's: All which was literally true, as the Fellow himself (whose Name I think was *William Skaylor*) told me afterwards, when I served him with a Subpoena, at *Bear-Key*; for he said he was shaved either at *Maidenhead* or *Slough* that very Morning; and at the same time told me, that he and his two Companions, whose Names were *Andrew Pearcey* and *John Gibbs*, remember'd that such a Gentleman, as I described

cribed Mr. *Chandler* to be, did pass by them on the Thicket, and that they would all certainly appear at *Abingdon*, and hang the Dog, for scandalizing three honest Bargemen.

Mr. *Chandler*, having now taken the first principal Step towards his bringing an Action against the Hundred, went to Mr. *Butter's* over the Way, who keeps the *Hare and Hounds* at *Hare Hatch*, and order'd a good Supper, and call'd for a Bowl of Punch; and, after he had told the Landlord the Story, and what his Intentions were, desired him to give proper Notice and Intelligence to his Neighbours of the Robbery. (This is the Notice required by the Statute of the 27<sup>th</sup> *Eliz.*) And now, having done all that was requisite for him to do that Evening, he was very easy, and sat down to his Punch. The Landlord, Mr. *Butter*, in the mean time went over to his Neighbour Mr. *Young*, and acquainted him with this Robbery. Whereupon Mr. *Young* (having a Curiosity to see the Person that had been robbed of so large a Sum, and having some Years ago been robbed himself, and taken the proper Steps for the Recovery of his Loss, had not the Hundred saved him the Trouble by paying him the Money) went over to *Butter's*, and ask'd Mr. *Chandler* some Questions in relation to what he had done, or intended to do, in the Affair; to which Mr. *Chandler* answer'd, he had done all he should do at present. Mr. *Young* then asked him, if he should not go before a Justice of the Peace immediately, and make Oath of the Robbery. No, replied Mr. *Chandler*, I have given the proper Notice in Writing to the Constable, and also Notice and Intelligence to the Inhabitants, which is all that is requisite to be done at present, either by the Statute of the 27<sup>th</sup> *Eliz.* Chap. 13, or by the late Statute of the 8<sup>th</sup> *Geo. II.*; and as to the Notice to be given in the London Gazette, I have twenty

*twenty Days to do that in; and as to the Information before a Justice of Peace, I can make that at any time, provided it be done within twenty Days before I bring my Action:* And seemed so well acquainted with the several Statutes relating to Hue and Cry, that Mr. Young thought he could have repeated good Part of them without Book; and (as Mr. Young afterwards told me himself) shewed no more Concern than if he had lost but five Pounds.

Mr. Chandler, after Mr. Young was gone, made a good Supper, and sat up with the Landlord and another Friend till between Twelve and One of the Clock; and the next Morning got up between Five and Six, in order to go in a great Hurry to stop Payment of the Notes, and yet never sat out from *Hare-Hatch* till near Ten; but when he did set out he made amends for his Delay, for he rode as hard as his Mare could carry him till he came to *Colnbrook*, and there hired a fresh Horse, and told Mr. Fulmore (of whom he hired the Horse) that he had been robb'd of One Thousand Pounds, and that he was going to Town in great Haste to stop the Notes. When he came to Town, he hurried away to his Master's Chambers, and told Mr. Hill, his Master, that he had been robb'd, and should be ruined; and desired him, for God's sake, to give him the Paper whereon he had taken down the Numbers, &c. of the fifteen Bank Notes, in order to go and stop Payment at the Bank; which Mr. Hill did, but at the same time cautioned him to take care of the Paper. No sooner had Mr. Chandler got Possession of Mr. Hill's Paper, but he presently made a small Variation in the three large Notes, which he told his Master he received at the Bank-Hall of a Stranger, but which he really had at Mr. Hoare's Shop; and then gave it to one Madden, an Apprentice to the Stationer in *Clifford's Inn*, to write it over fair. Now in order to set this Mat-

er in as clear a Light as possible, and to shew how artful a Variation Mr. *Chandler* had made in each Note, (for fear his Master should discover him by want of Memory) it will not be improper in this Place to set down the three real Notes as they stood in Mr. *Hill's* original Paper, and as they stood afterwards in the Paper transcribed by *Madden* with *Chandler's* Variation.

*be three real Notes as they stood in the Original Paper left with Mr. Hill, and by him given to Chandler, are as follows,*

L.	1.
o. 102. To Mess. <i>Freame</i> {	200
and Co. 28th Jan. 1747.	5
o. 195. To Mat. <i>Collet</i> , {	100
28th Nov. 1747.	5
o. 196. To ditto — ditto	200

*The three fictitious Notes as they afterwards stood in the Paper, transcribed by Madden, with Chandler's Variation, are as follows,*

L.	1.
No. 112. To Mess. <i>Freame</i> {	200
and Co. 20th Jan. 1747.	5
No. 159. To Mat. <i>Collet</i> , {	100
26th Nov. 1747.	5
No. 190. To ditto — ditto	100

Though this Alteration seems so very trifling, yet it answered Mr. *Chandler's* Purpose very well; or it was so near the Original that Mr. *Hill* could not possibly recollect the Difference, and yet at the same Time, it was as great a Variation as to the Bank Books, and Stoppage of Payment, as if he had even alter'd the Names and Sums. So that Mr. *Chandler*, instead of going that Afternoon to the Bank in order to stop Payment, actually went, in the Great Coat and Dress he had but just come to Town in, to one Mr. *Tufley's*, a Silver-smith in Cannon-Street, and bought a Silver Tankard, and, in order to pay for the same, changed the last mentioned Note of *Mat. Collet's*, N° 196; so that the reason for his altering these Notes is very plain; he was in order to negotiate them himself, and put some Cash in his Pocket, till such Time as he could have an Opportunity of carrying the remaining twelve Notes to *Holland*, or some other Country, in order to sell them, or dispose of them some other Way. Having now got rid of one of these Notes,

Notes, he went in the Evening, being the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 1748, to the Printer of the *Daily Gazetteer or London Advertiser*, with the following Advertisement, which was inserted in that Paper the next Morning.

Saturday, March 26, 1748.

- WHEREAS Thomas Chandler of Clifford's Inn London, Gentleman, was, on the 24<sup>th</sup> instant, robb'd between Hare-hatch and Twyford, in the Road to Reading, of the several Bank Notes following, viz.
- N° 98. To Thomas Tendall, March 4, 1747. 50
- 144. To James Reynolds, Dec. 21, 1747. 40
- 187. To George Wolley, Feb. 11, 1747. 30
- 234. To Henry Taylor, March 23, 1747. 50
- 235. To ditto        ditto        50
- 236. To ditto        ditto        50
- 237. To ditto        ditto        50
- 238. To ditto        ditto        50
- 239. To ditto        ditto        50
- 340. To ditto        ditto        50
- 341. To ditto        ditto        50
- 112. To Mess. Fream and C°, Jan. 20, 1747. 200
- 190. To Matthew Collet, Nov. 26, 1747. 100
- 159. To ditto        ditto        100
- 3. To Thomas Brown, March 24, 1747. 40
- And of Five Guineas in Gold, and Twenty Shillings and upwards in Silver, and also of a Silver Watch.
- Whoever brings the same to the said Thomas Chandler shall receive Fifty Pounds Reward, or in Proportion for any Part.
- Payment is stopt at the Bank.
- N. B. The Robbery was committed between Five and Six in the Afternoon by three Men on Foot, two of whom were short well-set Men, about Thirty Years of Age, and the other a tall thin Man, about Fifty Years of Age, all dress'd in

in light-colour'd Great-Coats and dark-brown Wigs.

The like Advertisement was put in all the other Daily Papers. And the same Morning, being the 26<sup>th</sup> of March 1748, (and not before) he went to the Bank to stop Payment, when the Secretary of the Bank struck a Red Line under the three Notes in the Paper, which Mr. *Chandler* had altered, because it appear'd that no such Notes were ever made out at the Bank: But told him, as to the other twelve Notes, if he would enter into the common Form of Security, they might be stopp'd, which he afterwards did. Mr. *Hill* asked Mr. *Chandler*, when he came from the Bank, (as he had done the Evening before) for his original Paper; but Mr. *Chandler* said the Clerks of the Bank had mislaid it, but that he had an exact Copy of it. Mr. *Chandler* now went and withdrew his Advertisement in all the Daily Papers, and took his own written one away with him at each Place, to prevent our being able to prove that he put it in; and in the Afternoon set out again for *Harebatch*, and the next Day (being Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup>) went with his Landlord *Butter*, Farmer *Mattbews*, and several neighbouring Farmers, to shew them the Place where the Robbers first stopt him in the Road, and afterwards the Pit where they bound him, and told them every minute Circumstance relating to their finding and taking away the Notes, his first getting upon his Legs, and afterwards getting out of the Pit, his going from thence up as far as the Place where he was releas'd by the Shepherd, being near half a Mile, with his Legs tied across, and his Hands tied; wherein he contradicted himself (being cross-examined by Mr. *Mattbews*) in many material Circumstances, and at the same Time took such exact Notice of every Thing which he pass'd by, as it

impossible for any Man under such Circumstances to be able to do. And the next Day he went to Town again, and on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March put the following Notice into the *London Gazette*, which was the next Thing requisite to be done by the said Statute of the 8<sup>th</sup> of George II.

• **N**OTICE is hereby given, pursuant to the Statute made in the eighth Year of his present Majesty's Reign, intitul'd, *An Act for the Amendment of the Law relating to Actions on the Statute of Hue and Cry*, That Thomas Chandler of Clifford's Inn, London, Gentleman, on Thursday the 24<sup>th</sup> Day of March instant, between the Hours of Five and Six of the Clock in the Afternoon of the same Day, as he was travelling on the King's Highway leading from Harebatch in Berkshire to Twyford, in the Road to Reading, was robb'd in the Parish of Ruscomb, in the Hundred of Sunning, in the County of Berks, of Fifteen Bank Notes of the Value of Nine Hundred and Sixty Pounds, of Five Guineas in Gold, Twenty Shillings and upwards in Silver, and a Silver Watch, by three Men on Foot, all unknown to him, who obliged him to dismount from his Horse, and took him into a Pit in a Field adjoining to the Highway, and there robbed him. Two of the Robbers were short well-set Men, about Thirty Years of Age, and the other was a tall thin Man about Fifty Years of Age: All Three of the Robbers had on light-colour'd Great Coats, and dark brown Wigs.'

And now he had but one Thing more to do before he brought his Action, which was his Information before the Justice; and this he put off as long as he could, that the Inhabitants of the Hundred might have as little Time as possible to prepare Evidence,

vidence, thinking they would not stir in it till he had brought his Action against the High Constables: And in this he judged right; for so it happen'd. But on the 12<sup>th</sup> of *May* following Mr. *Chandler*, with his Master Mr. *Hill*, (who had now undertaken to solicit his Cause) came down in the Country, and went to Mr. *Hayes* at *Holyport*, and there made the following Information:

*County of BERKS,* { *The Information of Thomas  
to wit,* } *Chandler, of Clifford's Inn,  
Gentleman.*

‘ *T*HIS Informant, being duly sworn, faith, That  
‘ on Thursday the 24<sup>th</sup> Day of March last past,  
‘ between the Hours of Five and Six of the Clock  
‘ in the Afternoon of the same Day, as he was  
‘ Travelling on the King’s Highway leading from  
‘ *Hare-hatch* in *Berkshire* to *Twyford* in the Road  
‘ to *Reading*, he was met by three Men on Foot,  
‘ in the said Highway, about half a Mile from  
‘ *Hare-hatch* aforesaid, one of whom laid hold of  
‘ his Horse’s Bridle, and presented a Pistol to him,  
‘ and demanded his Money; whereupon this In-  
‘ formant delivered unto them Five Guineas in Gold,  
‘ and Twenty Shillings and upwards in Silver; but  
‘ the said Three Men, not being satisfy’d therewith,  
‘ obliged this Informant to dismount, and go with  
‘ them into a Pit in a Field adjoining to the said  
‘ Highway, where they searched this Informant’s  
‘ Cloaths, and pulled off his Boots, and untied  
‘ his Garters in order to pull off his Stockings,  
‘ when they found Fifteen Notes payable by the  
‘ Governour and Company of the Bank of *England*,  
‘ commonly called Bank Notes, of the Value of  
‘ Nine Hundred and Sixty Pounds, tied up in two  
‘ little Canvas Bags under this Informant’s Stock-  
‘ ings and Garters; which said Fifteen Bank Notes,  
‘ of the Value of Nine Hundred and Sixty Pounds  
‘ of lawful Money of *Great-Britain*, the said Three

Men did then and there feloniously take from him,  
 this Informant, and robbed him of, together with  
 a Silver Watch of the Value of Four Pounds ;  
 after which this Deponent put on his Boots again,  
 and was going into the Road to look after his  
 Horse, when the said Men order'd this Informant  
 to come back, and took and tied this Informant's  
 Hands and Legs, and laid him down in a Hole  
 in the said Pit, and threaten'd to shoot this In-  
 formant in case he made any Noise. And fur-  
 ther faith, he hath been informed, and verily  
 believes, that the Place where the said three Men  
 stopp'd this Informant in the said Highway as  
 aforesaid, and also the Field and Pit in which  
 they afterwards took this Informant and searched  
 him as aforesaid, are all within the Parish of  
*Ruscombe*, in the Hundred of *Sunning*, in the  
 County of *Berks*. And this Informant further  
 saith, That two of the said Three Men who rob-  
 bed him as aforesaid, were short well-set Men a-  
 bout Thirty Years of Age, and the other of the  
 said three Men was a tall thin Man of about Fifty  
 Years of Age, and that all three of the said Men  
 had on light-colour'd Great Coats, and dark  
 brown Wigs ; and faith, that he did not then  
 know the Parties who committed the said Rob-  
 bery, or any of them, neither doth this Infor-  
 mant yet know the said Parties who committed  
 the said Robbery, or any of them.

THO<sup>•</sup> CHANDLER,

*Sworn at Holyport in the Parish  
 of Bray, in the County of Berks,  
 the 12<sup>th</sup> Day of May, One Thou-  
 sand Seven Hundred and For-  
 ty Eight, before me one of His  
 Majesty's Justices of the Peace  
 of the said County of Berks; in-  
 habiting at Holyport aforesaid.*

J. HAYES.

It is here to be observed, that notwithstanding Mr. *Chandler* had hitherto pursued the several Statutes relating to the Hue and Cry with the greatest Exactness imaginable, yet here was an Oversight, (a very fatal one to him, but very lucky one for the Country) for not only in the above Information, but also in the Notice inserted in the *London Gazette* of March 29, he has lumped the whole fifteen Bank Notes together at 960*l.* Value, without setting forth the Description of one of them: Whereas by the Statute of the 8<sup>th</sup> Geo. II. not only a Description of the Robbers, and of the Time and Place of the Robbery, but also of the Goods and Effects whereof the Party is robbed, (as far forth as the Nature and Circumstances of the Case will admit) are equally requisite. And hereupon arose a Point of Law.

By this time Mr. *Chandler* had circulated all the three altered Notes before mention'd, in order to raise Money to carry on his Suit against the Hundred, and which three Notes came into the Bank as follows:

*First Note, N° 196, Matt. Collet,*  
Nov. 28, 1747. £.  
By *William Dalmer*, the 30<sup>th</sup> of March,  
1748, who had it of *Swift*, who  
had it of *Tusley*, who had it of *Chandler* when he bought the Tankard, } 100 0 0

*Second Note, N° 102, Mess. Freame*  
and C°. Jan. 28, 1747.  
By *Humphry Smart*, the 6<sup>th</sup> of April,  
1748, which *Humphry Smart* is Bro- } 200 0 0  
ther to *Chandler's Wife*, —

Carried over, £. 300 0 0  
*Third*

Brought over, £. 300 0 0

*Third Note, N° 195, Matt. Collet,*

Nov. 28, 1747.

By Samuel Sills, the 17<sup>th</sup> of May, 1748,  
to which said Sills lives now at Rotterdam in Holland, and well remembers his going with this Note for Mr. Chandler to the Bank, when he was Journeyman to one Gauntlet, a Linen-Drapet at Stocks-Market, who was one of Chandler's Securities, and who also remembers Chandler's sending his Man Sills with the Note to the Bank,

How Mr. Chandler really came by these Notes, and the different Account he gave his Master how he came by them, has been already related.—But how this Matter was discovered will appear hereafter in its proper Place.

The Time being now come for Mr. Chandler's bringing his Action against the Hundred, in order to bring the Cause to Tryal the next Assizes at Abingdon, Richard Binfield of the Parish of Wokingham in the County of Berks, Yeoman, and Anthony Marlow of Hurst in the said County, Yeoman, (being then High Constables for the said Hundred of Sunning) were served with the proper Process, and in Trinity Term following Mr. Chandler declared.

Plaintiff declared, *That certain Malefactors, &c.*  
Defendants pleaded, *Not Guilty.* Whereupon  
Issue was joined.

## The

The principal Inhabitants of the Hundred, soon after the Action was brought, met at the Rose at *Wokingham*, and desired that I (as I lived in the Hundred) and Mr. *Palmer* my Agent (whose Father likewise lived in the Hundred) would jointly undertake to appear for them, and defend this Action, with all the Diligence we could; for that, if Mr. *Chandler* should recover the 1000*l.* and his Cost, it would be the utter Ruin of many poor Families in the Hundred. Upon this I immediately wrote to Mr. *Palmer*, who enter'd an Appearance, and took a good deal of Pains in collecting what Evidence he could in Town from Mr. *Banks*, (Mr. *Chandler*'s first Master) and from Mr. *Roman*, and at the Bank; where we presently found, that there never were any such Notes issued at the Bank, as three of the Notes which Mr. *Chandler* had advertised in all the Daily Papers, and afterwards came to stop at the Bank. In the mean time, when I had collected all the Evidence I possibly could in and about *Hare-Hatch*, where the Robbery was pretended to be committed, and had seen and examined every Person who either had discoursed with or seen Mr. *Chandler* after he was robbed, I was pretty confident that he was an Impostor: But after I had made a Visit or two to his Father at *Woodborrough*; had been twice at Mr. *Poore*'s at *Enford*, who had a Mortgage for 500*l.* on the very Estate, on which Mr. *Chandler* was going, as he pretended, to lend 1000*l.*; had been at the very House where Mrs. *Straite* came by *Chandler*'s Appointment to meet him with the Money; had been at *Salisbury*, and conversed with Mr. *Fielding*, (who then lodged at Mrs. *Strait*'s House, and to whom Mr. *Chandler* had given a full but contradictory Account of the whole Affair) and also with Mr. *Poore*, the Member for *Salisbury*, who once was about purchasing this very Estate of Mrs. *Strait*'s

for

for his Uncle Mr. *Poore*, who had the 500*l.* Mortgage on it: I say, after having been at these Places, and seen and conversed with these Persons, I found we should be able to make the following Proofs.

*First*, That his Father never remitted him any considerable Sum of Money in his Life on his own Account; nor had he seen his Son since the supposed Robbery; nor did he know any thing of the Robbery, but from what he saw in the News-Paper at the *Devizes*. That he wonder'd how his Son came by the Money, for all that he ever had of him was an Estate worth about 400*l.* And as to the Estate at *Enford*, on which his Son was going to lend the 1000*l.* (though it was within five Miles of his own House, and his Son was with him but ten Days before the Money was to be brought to *Enford*) he knew nothing of the matter, nor did his Son speak one Word to him about it, but took his Leave of him, and said he believed he should not see him again that Summer.

*Secondly*, That this Estate of Mrs. *Strait's*, on which Mr. *Chandler* pretended he was going down to lend 1000*l.* was but an uncertain Kind of Security even for the 500*l.* Mr. *Poore* had on it. That Mr. *Poore* had been in Reception of the Rents and Profits for some Years, and that it had not paid him his Interest by a considerable Sum; that it depended on a Life's dropping in; and that when Mr. *Poore* had once a mind to purchase it for his own Conveniency, his Nephew, Mr. *Poore* of *Salisbury*, advised him by no means to give above 1100*l.* for it, for that it was not worth even that on a strict Calculation.

*Thirdly*, That all the Title-Deeds relating to this Estate were in Mr. *Poore's* Hands; and that consequently Mr. *Chandler* could have no Instructions to make this pretended Mortgage by, but the mere Counter-part of Mr. *Poore's* Mortgage. That

Mr.

Mr. Poore would not have taken his Money if Mr. Chandler had brought it to Enford; and that Mr. Chandler knew this by a Post-Letter from Mrs. Strait before he set out with the Money. That Mr. Poore saw Mrs. Strait and her Son at the Publick House at Enford on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March, when she came to meet Mr. Chandler, but did not so much as speak to her; and that when the Landlord went to Chandler's Father's House, to enquire after Mr. Chandler, and what was become of him, he brought word back, that his Father did not expect to see him in the Country again a great while, for that he had very lately been with him.

Fourthly, That soon after Mr. Chandier had (as he pretended) been robb'd, he wrote a doleful Letter to Mrs. Strait, to acquaint her with the unfortunate Cause of his not meeting her with the Money at Enford; and therein told her, that her Disappointment added to his Trouble; but that, if she could make Interest with Mr. Poore of Salisbury, to get an Abstract of her Title-Deeds from his Uncle, there was a Friend of his (if he approved the Title, and liked the Estate) would advance her the Money. That such an Abstract was sent up, but that Mr. Chandler's Friend thought the Estate a very insufficient Security for 1000*l.* and would not lend the Money.

I was now as fully convinced, from the above Circumstances, that Mr. Chandler never intended to lend the Money, and consequently was never robb'd of it, as I am at present. Yet when we came to the Assizes at Abingdon, the Plaintiff, Mr. Chandler, having gone through all his Evidence in order to prove the Robbery, (wherein I do not remember any thing material that he attempted to prove, but what has been mentioned and admitted in the preceding Narrative) and the Defendants having examined upwards of twenty Witnesses, and fully

proved the several strong Facts just before mentioned, with a great many other material Circumstances in respect to the Place, Time, and Manner of the pretended Robbery, the Plaintiff's different Accounts of it, and the Behaviour of the Plaintiff (Mr. *Chandler*) both before and after the Robbery, and divers other Particulars, most of which have been already hinted at; yet so artfully had the Plaintiff (Mr. *Chandler*) blended his own Evidence with his Master's, that neither the Court nor the Jury could look upon Mr. *Chandler* as guilty, and at the same time think Mr. *Hill* innocent: And Mr. *Hill* being a Gentleman of a very fair Character, and several Gentlemen of Fortune appearing both for his Character and Mr. *Chandler*'s, the Jury, after a Tryal which had lasted above twelve Hours, went out, and, after staying near an Hour, brought in a Verdict for Mr. *Chandler* the Plaintiff, with 975*l.* Damages. But the Point of Law, with respect to the Plaintiff's not describing and setting forth the Bank Notes in the *London Gazette* of the 29<sup>th</sup> of *March*, as before mention'd, was reserved and made a Case of, to be argued the *Michaelmas* Term following before the Court of *Common Pleas*.

I was not a little disappointed at losing this Cause; but as soon as I got up the next Morning, the first thing I saw was a Gentleman's Servant in Livery, (whose Master was one of our own Witnesses, and lived within less than half a Mile of the very Spot where this Robbery was pretended to be committed) and several others of our Witnesses, who lived in the Neighbourhood of *Hare-Hatch*, (and particularly the Servants at the Inn at *Hare-Hatch*) all with large Knots in their Hats: And upon my asking them what was the Meaning of all this, and who gave them the Knots, they answer'd, *Mr. Chandler*, on account of his getting the Day, as they

they call'd it. I must confess, I was then highly provoked at the Meanness of these Rascals; nor should I have been surprized to have seen Mr. *Butter*, our Landlord, with one himself: But Mr. *Butter* (notwithstanding he all along seem'd much more inclined to serve Mr. *Chandler* than his Neighbours) had Prudence enough not to wear the Cockade.

Notwithstanding all the Rejoicings that were made in the Town by Mr. *Chandler* on his getting this Verdict, yet he was not so well pleased with it himself as may be imagined; for (from what came out upon the Tryal) he had great Reason to be apprehensive of some very bad Consequences; and, by the Steps which he immediately took, it appears that he was afraid of three Things: *First*, that the Point of Law would go against him; *secondly*, that he should soon be suspected by his Master and all his Friends; and *thirdly*, that Mr. *Winter* would then proceed against him for his 500*l.* And therefore (in order to guard against any sudden Surprize of this Kind) Mr. *Chandler*, in less than a Month after the Assizes, applied to Lord *W——y de B——k* for a Protection, and very soon after he had got one, went into *Suffolk* again, to reside with his rich Uncle there, as he pretended; but the Place he went to was *Colchester*, where he had taken an Inn in Co-partnership with his Wife's Brother *Humphry Smart*, and from this Time never came to make any Stay in *London* afterwards. But being still obliged to correspond with his Master on account of the Point of Law, (which was of very great Consequence to him, and which was to be argued in *Michaelmas* Term under the Management of Mr. *Hill*) he contrived such an artful Method of corresponding with his Master, as neither his Master nor any one else should possibly know where to find him, and yet he was sure to know if

any Enquiry was made after him. His Letters were directed to him in this manner:

*To Mr. Thomas Chandler at Easton in Suffolk, to be left for him at the Crown at Ardley near Colchester in Essex.*

The artful Contrivance of which Direction will appear hereafter.

Mr. Hill having wrote several times to Mr. Chandler to press him to come to Town, (as the Term grew so near) and he continually making trifling Excuses that he could not come, began to have some Suspicion of him, which daily increased to the very Time that the Point of Law was argued, which was the latter End of Michaelmas Term; and then this lucky Point was determined, when the Court (after hearing Counsel on both Sides, and taking some Days to consider of the Matter) were of Opinion that the Plaintiff's Notice in the *Gazette* of the 29<sup>th</sup> of March (for want of his setting forth the Numbers and Dates of the fifteen Notes, or at least of such of them as it appeared he knew) was insufficient, and that the Plaintiff's Verdict should be set aside; which was accordingly done, to the great Joy of many poor Farmers, who would have otherwise severely felt the Weight of it: But the Court order'd each Party to sit down at their own Cost. Thus we got rid of a Verdict, which at the Time of its being given (being greatly prejudiced in favour of the Defendants, and having every thing that made for them strongly imprinted in my Mind) I must confess I thought a very cruel one, against an innocent Hundred: Yet at the same time I must not omit doing the Gentlemen Justice w<sup>o</sup> served on that Jury, by declaring that I heard Mr. Justice Burnet, who tried the Cause, say, (at the Time the Point of Law was argued) that he thought it a right Verdict.

I should have taken notice, that just before this Point of Law was argued, the other twelve Notes (being the Remainder of the fifteen Notes Mr. *Chandler* set out with from *London*, and which had been sold at *Amsterdam* on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 1748, O. S. by one *John Smith* to Mr. *Barent Salomons* a Broker there, and by him remitted over for Payment to Mr. *Nathan Salomons*, his Son, a Broker in *London*) were all brought to the Bank together for Payment, of which we had Notice from the Secretary of the Bank immediately; and, as Mr. *Salomons* was a Gentleman in good Circumstances, the Gentlemen of the Bank requested it as a Favour, that he (for the sake of Justice) would agree that Payment should be stopp'd till he had wrote over to his Father to send a proper Certificate and Affidavit of whom he bought them, together with the Person's Receipt which he gave for the Money: And accordingly Mr. *Salomons* did write, and by the next Return of the Mail from *Holland* such a Certificate under the Seal of *Amsterdam* did come over, and also the very Receipt given by the said *John Smith* to the said Mr. *Barent Salomons* for the Money; which Name *John Smith* was wrote as if it had been wrote with a Skewer, in a strong forced Hand, and yet at the same time seemed to be the Writing of a Person that could write more Hands than one. When Mr. *Hill* saw this, and that Mr. *Chandler* would not come near him all this time, (though he still, for his own Conveniency, corresponded with Mr. *Hill* by Letter) he resolved to join us in making all the Enquiry in *Holland* that was possible, to endeavour to hear what Kind of a Man this *John Smith* was, who sold the Notes; whether he was in any particular Company whilst he was there, or what became of him after he had sold the Notes: And accordingly a Letter was wrote, I think by Mr. *Lewin* Secretary of the Bank,

to an Acquaintance of his in *Holland*, to make such proper Enquiries about this Mr. *Smith*; and after a Letter or two had passed we received an Account, that the said Mr. *Smith*, who sold the Notes, made a very short Stay in *Holland*, but was seen the Night before he came away in Company with one Mr. *Caffon*, a *Holland* Trader, who lived somewhere in *London*, and 'twas thought they came to *England* together.

Soon after we receiv'd this Letter we found out Mr. *Caffon*, who lived near *Wapping*; and after Mr. *Hill*, Mr. *Palmer*, and myself, had all three seen him and talk'd with him at different Times, the Description he gave each of us of Mr. *Smith* very much answered to the Person of Mr. *Chandler*, particularly his Speech. Upon this Mr. *Hill* wrote to Mr. *Chandler*, to let him know that it was reported, that the Description of the Person who sold the Notes in *Holland* (by the Name of *John Smith*) answer'd very much to his Person; and that one Mr. *Caffon*, who came over in the Packet with the Person who sold the Notes, was now in Town, but was going to *Holland* again soon; and therefore desir'd him to come up to Town to face Mr. *Caffon* before he went, in order to stop such Report. In answer to this Letter, Mr. *Chandler* wrote Word, that he did not mind what Reports his Enemies spread, for he knew they would hang him if they could, therefore should not trouble himself about it; but that the ill Success that had attended his Affair, on the Point of Law, had almost broke his Heart; and that what added to his great Uneasiness was, that he had heard that it had the same Effect upon his Father.

Just before Mr. *Hill* receiv'd this Answer, Mr. *Oyles*, one of the Clerks of the Bank, had found the very Paper Mr. *Chandler* left, when he stopt Payment of the Notes; which when Mr. *Hill* saw, and that it was not his Writing, but wrote by *Madden*

den the Apprentice to the Stationer in *Clifford's Inn*, he then quite gave up his Clerk, Mr. *Chandler*, and from that very Time did every Thing in his Power to detect him. We then searched at the Bank to see what other Notes were taken out at the same Time that Mr. *Chandler* took out the 40*l.* Note, payable to *Thomas Brown*, N° 3. the 24<sup>th</sup> of *March* 1747, (which was the Morning he set out) and by the Bank Book it appeared, that the Note immediately preceding it, N° 2, for 400*l.* was payable to the same Person, *Thomas Brown*; and being exactly the Sum 440*l.* which Mr. *Chandler* went to the Bank for, we concluded he took them both out himself. And then we searched the Bank Books to see if this last mentioned Note for 400*l.* was yet come into the Bank, and by whom; which being done, this Note was traced from the Person who brought it into the Bank, and whose Name was on the Backside, down to a Gentleman at *Carlisle*, and back again to Sir *Richard Hoare's* Shop in *Fleetstreet*, where the said Gentleman receiv'd it (with many others) in Part of Payment for a Captain's Commission of Dragoons; and by an Entry in Mr. *Hoare's* Books it appeared that Mr. *Chandler* exchanged the said Note in his Master's (Mr. *Hill's*) Name, for the three Notes before mention'd to be by him altered in his Advertisements, and which he told his Master he receiv'd of a Stranger in the Bank Hall; which three Notes he very soon afterwards circulated himself, as has been before particularly mentioned. Matters appearing now so very black against Mr. *Chandler*, and Mr. *Winter* upon Enquiry having found that Mr. *Chandler's* Estate, on which he had lent 500*l.* was scarcely worth 400*l.* Mr. *Winter* now joined us; and the next Step we took was to endeavour to find out Mr. *Chandler*, and to get an Interview between him and Mr. *Casson* (Mr. *Hill* still holding a Correspondence

dence with Mr. Chandler for that Purpose); but Mr. Caffon being then in *Holland*, it was deferr'd till he returned, which was not till near *Midsummer* 1749, when Mr. Winter, on Mr. Caffon's Return, immediately wrote to me to press me to take a Journey with Mr. Caffon to *Colchester*. In answer to Mr. Winter's Letter I sent him Word, that unless Mr. Hill would go with us, I was afraid it would be a fruitless Journey; but that if Mr. Hill would go, I would go to *Colchester*, or any where else, in search after so great a Rogue. Soon after which he inform'd me by another Letter, that Mr. Caffon would soon be going to *Holland* again, and that therefore he had taken out three Writs for the Counties of *Norfolk*, *Suffolk*, and *Essex*, against Mr. Chandler for his 500*l*; and that he had got the several Sheriffs to make me Special in each Writ; and that Mr. Hill would go, and they intended to set out the *Monday* following in the *Colchester Stage-Coach*, and, if I chose to go in the Stage, he would take three Places, if not he should take but two. I sent him Word I would certainly dine with him in *Dartmouth Street* on the *Sunday*, in order to go with Mr. Hill and Mr. Caffon; but I did not chuse to go in the Stage. And accordingly on *Sunday Morning* early I set-out and got to Mr. Winter's to Dinner, and in the Evening went to the *Spread-Eagle* in *Grace-Church-Street*, where we lay.

The next Morning, between Four and Five, we set out for *Colchester*: Mr. Hill and Mr. Caffon went in the Stage-Coach, and I in my Chair, and got to *Colchester* between Eight and Nine that Night. We soon enquired how far it was to the *Crown* at *Ardley*, when we were inform'd it was about three Miles, in the Road to *Ipswich*. This being the Place where Mr. Chandler's Letters were directed to be left for him at *Easton*, we imagined that *Easton* could not be a great deal further; so in the Morning early,

we hired three Horses, and set out for the *Crown at Ardley*, without Boots, Spurs, or Whip, in order to enquire there our Way to *Easton*; but when we came to *Ardley*, we perceived that all our Horses wanted shoeing; so whilst we sent our Horses to be shod at a Smith's Shop hard by, we went to Breakfast with our Landlord at the *Crown at Ardley*, in hopes of getting some Intelligence of Mr. *Chandler*. The first Thing I fixed my Eye on after we came into the Kitchen, was a Letter which stuck behind the Plates directed for Mr. *Chandler*, and which I took to be Mr. *Hill's* Hand, (which prov'd to be the last Letter Mr. *Hill* wrote to him, about a Fortnight before.) We then, finding we were right thus far, asked our Landlord if he knew the Gentleman to whom that Letter was directed? He told us he knew no more of him, than that he came there about once a Fortnight for Letters; and described him and his Mare very exactly; and that he believed he came from some Place at a Distance, for that his Mare seemed always to be very hard rid, and that he generally came in an Evening, and stay'd about an Hour, and then went away again; and that he never staid all Night. We then asked him if he knew such a Place as *Easton*? He told us he did not; but that there was a Place called *Aston* about fourteen Miles off, across the Country, within two Miles of *Sudbury* in *Suffolk*. Our Horses being now shod, and having got as much out of our Landlord as we could, we set out with a blind Direction for *Aston*, which prov'd a very intricate Road; and when we came there, we enquir'd at almost every House in the Parish after such a Person as Mr. *Chandler*, but to no Purpose. We then got a Mutton Chop at an Ale-house, where our Landlord told us, that there had been a young Gentleman down at the 'Squire's, but who he was he could not tell; tho' by his Description of him, he did not at all answer the Person of Mr. *Chandler*.

We then determin'd to go back to the 'Squire's House which our Landlord had mention'd, being about two Miles ; and when we came there, I dismounted and went into the House, (leaving Mr. *Casson* and Mr. *Hill* upon their Horses) and told the Gentleman our Business, and that if any such Person was secreted in his Parish, he would do an Act of Justice to the Publick to discover it. The Gentleman smiled when I mention'd that Mr. *Chandler* had directed his Letters for him at *Easton* in *Suffolk*, to be left at the *Crown* at *Ardley*; and immediately shew'd me his Map of the County ; and said, that though his Parish was vulgarly call'd *Aston*, I might see that its proper Name was *Affington* ; and though Mr. *Chandler* had directed his Letters to be left at *Ardley*, yet the *Easton* mention'd in the Direction of his Letters was near forty Miles further, about fifteen Miles beyond *Ipswich*, where my Lord *Rockfort* had a Seat. I then asked him how far it was to *Ipswich*? He told me near twenty Miles. I then took my Leave of him, and returned to my Friends Mr. *Casson* and Mr. *Hill*, and told them what comfortable Intelligence I had receiv'd from the 'Squire. We then concluded, notwithstanding it was near Eight o'Clock, to make the best of our Way for *Ipswich*, where we did not reach till after Twelve o' Clock at Night, and poor Mr. *Casson* (not being used to ride) was almost dead, and so bad the next Day that he could not proceed any further with us. But Mr. *Hill* and I got up in the Morning and set out for *Easton*, and in our Way, about twelve Miles on the other Side *Ipswich*, we call'd on an honest Farmer, (who was Tenant to a Client of Mr. *Hill*'s) where we breakfasted, and pressed the Farmer to go with us to *Easton*, which was not above four Miles from his House, to which the honest Farmer readily consented. And as we rode along the Farmer told us, that he was well acquainted with Lord *Rockford*'s Gardener, and that he sold

a Pot of Ale at *Easton*; and that if any such Person as Mr. *Chandler* was there, the Gardener, he was sure, must know it, and he would undertake that he should assist us all in his Power. When we came there we found the Gardener's Ale very good, but his Intelligence very bad; for he told us that we were come to the wrong *Easton* to meet with such a Rogue, as we had described Mr. *Chandler* to be; and at the same Time reach'd down his Map of the County of *Suffolk*, and there he shew'd us another *Easton*, close to the Sea; and this, said he, is the Place, in all Probability, where your Chap is: And when we came to enquire how far it was to this *Easton*, he told us it was between thirty and forty Miles. We then asked the honest Farmer if he would go with us, who consented; and we then, notwithstanding our Disappointments, very chearfully set out for this last *Easton*, being pretty sure of not going any further Eastward, this Place being washed by the Sea, and taking its Name from being the most eastern Point of our Island. After a long Day's Journey we arrived at *Easton* in the Evening, but found there were but two Houses in the Place, and those both Farm-Houses, where we enquired after such a Person as Mr. *Chandler*, and was informed at one of the Farm-Houses that such a Sort of Person as we described had been up and down there for a Week or ten Days last past, with another young Fellow, who had been a Hackney Writer in *London*, and had two Aunts lived at *Southwold*, a little Market Town about two Miles Distance, on the Sea Coast. We then jogg'd on to *Southwold*, and as soon as we had put up our Horses at the *George-Inn* there, and ordered a Supper of some very fine Soles (being very hungry) we enquired of my Landlord if there was any Attorney lived in the Place; he told us there was a very honest Gentleman, one Mr. *Jenny*, who lived over

the Way. We immediately sent the Waiter for Mr. Jenny, who, as soon as we had related the whole Affair to him, told us he believed the Person was in their Town, for that such a young Fellow had been up and down for a Week or ten Days, with a young Person who had served Part of a Clerkship in *Furnival's Inn*, and was now a Hackney-Writer, and sometimes in Town, and sometimes in the Country, and was then with two Maiden Aunts who lived in their Town ; being the same Account that we received at *Easton*.

Having now, as we thought, so strong a Scent of our Game, the Length of our Chace, instead of fatiguing us, gave us Spirits. We then press'd Mr. Jenny to sup with us ; but he told us that he had a lame Gentleman, one Mr. Woodward of *Huntingdon*, that had just taken Lodgings at his House, in order to bathe in the Sea ; and therefore desired to be excused, but he would wait on us after Supper. I told Mr. Jenny, I was well acquainted with Mr. Woodward, and would go over with him to see him, and hoped we should have his Company at Supper. Mr. Woodward, (who was no less surprised at seeing me, than I was at hearing by Mr. Jenny that he was there) after my acquainting him with the Business that brought me, waved all Ceremony with his Landlord Mr. Jenny, and desired he would assist us as far as lay in his Power. When Mr. Jenny and I was returned to the Inn, a Scheme was proposed for our having a Sight of these two young Fellows, and accordingly we sent for two or three Fellows from the Keys ; who, when they came, appeared to us like Smugglers, for they were pretty much maim'd and scarr'd. When we had told them our Busines, they readily agreed to shew us the two young Fellows before we slept, but ask'd us what we would give them. We told them, that if either of them was the Person we wanted, we would

would give them a Couple of Guineas, but insisted on knowing in what manner they intended to do it, for that we would by no means consent to any illegal Measures being made use of. They answer'd us, they would do it in the most legal manner in the World, and 'twas what they had often done, and that they would have the King's Authority for what they did: But we still insisting upon knowing their Scheme, one of the Men told us that he would go to the Collector of the Customs, and make an Affidavit that he had good Reasons to suspect there were divers Goods lodged in the House where these two young Fellows were, which had not paid the King's Duty; upon which he should have a Warrant granted from the Collector to search the House, and he would charge us to aid and assist. This was indeed a very lawful Scheme; but luckily (as it happen'd) the Collector, about half an Hour before, was gone with a Party of Dragoons, who then quarter'd there, to make a (more lawful) Search after some Tea, that was supposed to be lodged in a Barn, at about five Miles Distance; so that here our Scheme was frustrated. Our next Scheme, which was a much more legal one, was to contrive to get the Maid-Servant to come to us to the Inn, after her Mistresses were gone to Bed, in order to get a more particular Account and Description of the young Fellow; which we did by the Help of our Landlord, whose Garden Wall joined to theirs, and who was either a Relation or intimate Acquaintance of the Maid's. As soon as the Maid came, she told us she did not know who the young Fellow was that was with her Mistresses Nephew; but gave us a very exact Description of his Person, and which tallied with the Accounts we had received from Mr. Jenny and others, and answer'd to the Person of Mr. Chandler in every Particular, but that he was a little pitted with

with the Small Pox. From this last Circumstance alone we were well assured it was not Mr. *Chandler*, as he had never had the Small Pox; so we discharged the Maid, and went to Bed, and rose the next Morning early; when finding we had all this time been running the wrong Hare, we trail'd very coolly all the way back again to *Ipswich*, where we found our Friend Mr. *Gaffon* in much better Plight than when we left him.

Here we spent our Evening, and the next Morning set out for *Colchester*, and in our Way called on our Landlord at the *Crown* at *Ardley*, and then let him into our whole Secret, and told him who Mr. *Chandler* was, to whom the Letter behind the Plates was directed, and that we had been a great many Miles after him in order to take him, but to no Purpose; but that it was in his Power to take him, and that we would send him proper Authority, jointly with the Sheriff's Officer at *Colchester*, (whom he said he knew) and that, if he would stop him the next time he came for Letters, we would give him Twenty Guineas. The Landlord's Chops water'd at the Twenty Guineas; but his Wife and Son, being apprehensive that Mr. *Chandler* was a Smuggler, would not suffer our Landlord to come into any such Scheme, lest they should be burnt in their Beds. We then went to *Colchester*, but did not get there till late at Night; and having but one more Scheme left, which was that of bribing the Sheriff's Officer whose Name was in one of the Writs for the County of *Essex*, we got up the next Morning and went to him, and acquainted him likewise with our whole Proceedings; and that if he would contrive (either with the Assistance of our Landlord at the *Crown* at *Ardley*, or without) to get Mr. *Chandler* arrested, we would send him down fresh Writs for that Purpose, and would give him Twenty Guineas, clear of all his Expences: But I suppose

pose this worthy Officer thought Five and Twenty or Thirty Guineas of Mr. *Chandler's* Money preferable to our Twenty ; for we never heard any thing from him afterwards. But I had almost forgot to mention, that before we left *Colchester* we called at the *Three Crowns*, or the *Three Cups*, (I cannot really say which the Sign is) to enquire if they knew any such Gentleman as Mr. *Chandler*, (because this was the Inn that Mr. *Winter* told us he saw Mr. *Chandler* ride out of in the *October* after he had recovered his Verdict at *Abingdon*) but they answer'd us, No. This is the most remarkable Circumstance of any we have yet met with ; for is it to be imagined, that after we had over-run our Game near fourscore Miles, we should trail all the Way back again to the very Form, and even there lose our Hare ? Yet so it happened ; for Mr. *Chandler* himself was at this Time Master of this very Inn, (in Co-partnership with his Brother-in-Law Mr. *Humphrey Smart*, in whose Name it was kept) and in the House at the same Time.

Mr. *Chandler* hearing (either by our Landlord at the *Crown* at *Ardley*, or by the Sheriff's Officer) that we were in Pursuit of him, and that there were Writs out against him in *Norfolk*, *Suffolk*, and *Essex*, began to think *Colchester* a very improper Place for him to continue in long, and therefore immediately got all his Goods appraised, and sold for whatever he could get ; and having heard by some means or other, that there was, or very soon would be, a small Inn to be lett in the City of *Coventry*, he pack'd up his Alls, and went (with his Wife and Brother-in-Law *Humphrey Smart*) directly across the Country to *Coventry*, where (the Inn not being then vacant) he took Lodgings, and went for some time by the Name of *John Smith* ; which unfortunately happens to be the very Name of the Person that sold the twelve Bank Notes in *Holland*. But in a little

little Time the Inn, to which he had been recommended, became vacant; and then (his Brother-in-Law Mr. *Smart* having agreed with the Land-lord for the Rent of it) Mr. *Chandler* resumed his own Name, and set up again in this Inn; but was obliged to take up his Freedom of the City, before they would let him sell any Liquor: And in arguing with Mr. *Birch*, the Town-Clerk, about paying the Fine, he let drop some Expressions, by which Mr. *Birch* suspected him to have been bred to the Law.

Mr. *Chandler*, although he was now above a hundred and fifty Miles from *Colchester*, was still afraid of being found out and arrested by Mr. *Winter*; and, as he was conscious to himself he had grossly imposed on him in the Mortgage of his Estate, resolved to send up 130*l.* to his Master Mr. *Hill*, in order to be paid to Mr. *Winter*, to make him easy as to his Mortgage, and at the same time to acquaint him that he should send some more soon; but how to contrive to send this, without discovering where he was, he could not readily tell; but after some short Consideration he got up one Morning, and carried the 130*l.* with him to *Northampton*, where he got a Draught for the Money, and conveyed it in a Letter to his old Acquaintance Mr. *Gauntlet* the Linen-Draper in *Stocks-Market*, and desired him to receive the Money as soon as it became due, and to go and pay it to his Master (Mr. *Hill*) for and on account of Mr. *Winter*, and at the same time to acquaint him that he should soon have more Money ready to send; which Mr. *Gauntlet* accordingly did: Soon after which, being in *London* myself, Mr. *Hill* told me that he had received 130*l.* from *Chandler*; that he did not know where he was, but that the Money was paid him by Mr. *Gauntlet*. Application was then made to Mr. *Gauntlet*, to know if he could tell where Mr. *Chandler* was, and how he came

by the Money. Mr. Gauntlet said he really did not know where *Chandler* was, but that the Money came to him by a Draught on a Person in the City, and that the Letter (by the Post-Mark) came from *Northampton*. We then soon traced this Draught down to *Northampton*, and from thence to Mr. *Chandler* at his Inn at *Coventry*, which was the Sign of the *Golden Dragon*.

And now having fairly set Mr. *Chandler* at *Coventry*, Mr. *Winter* (taking no Notice of the 130*l.* for he had not as yet received it of Mr. *Hill*) made out two Writs against *Chandler* for his 500*l.* one for the County of *Warwick*, and the other for the City and County of *Coventry*, and sent them down to a Relation of his, (a Clergyman, who lived near *Coventry*) and desired him to endeavour to get the same executed with all the Secrecy imaginable; which he did endeavour to do, but the Sheriffs of *Coventry* sent up Word to Mr. *Winter*, that there was such a Person there, but that he was protected by Lord *W——y de B——k*; nevertheless, if Mr. *Winter* would indemnify them, they would execute the Writ. Mr. *Winter* then wrote down for a Copy of the Protection, by the Date of which it appeared, that Mr. *Chandler* had been protected by the same Nobleman ever since September 1748, which was very soon after his getting the Verdict at *Abingdon*; of all which Mr. *Winter* sent me an Account, and it being but just before our Quarter Sessions, which were to be held at *Reading* the Tuesday following, I wrote up for Mr. *Casson* to come down by the *Reading* Coach on the Monday following, to the *Crown* at *Reading*, and I would meet him there, and endeavour to get a Bill of Indictment found against Mr. *Chandler* at the Sessions; but when Mr. *Casson* and I attended Mr. *Hayes* (our Counsel) for that Purpose, Mr. *Hayes* thought it an Affair of too great Nicety and Consequence for him

to undertake singly at the Sessions, and advised us by all means not to risque it there, but to get an Indictment properly settled by somebody in Town, against the Assizes; and (as the Assizes would be held at *Reading* in about six Weeks or two Months, and Mr. *Chandler* being protected) he made no doubt but that we might then succeed, and get the Indictment found, and immediately take Mr. *Chandler* on a Judge's Warrant: Whereupon Mr. *Casson* returned to Town again the next Morning, with the *Reading* Stage; and soon afterwards I went to Town, and Mr. *Hill* and I got an Indictment settled by Mr. *Higgs*, Clerk of the Peace at *Hicks's Hall*; and (Mr. *Casson* being obliged to go *Holland* before the Assizes) I got Mr. *Lewin* the Secretary of the Bank, and Mr. *Winter*, to promise to come to the Lent Assizes, which were to be held at *Reading* in *March 1749*, to give Evidence upon this Bill; which they accordingly did, and upon their Evidence, and my own, the Grand Jury found our Bill. Upon which I got a Certificate from the Clerk of the Assize of the Indictment's being found, and the next Morning early (before the Judge went into Court) got Mr. Justice *Foster*'s Warrant for apprehending Mr. *Chandler*; with which (having got two of my Neighbours to go with me) I immediately set out for *Coventry*, and made all the Expedition imaginable, in order to get Mr. *Chandler* taken as soon as possible, lest he might have Advice sent to him to get out of the way. We reached within three Miles of *Coventry* by *Thursday* Noon, but did not care to go into the Town till after it was dusk. As soon as ever we arrived at the Inn, (which was the *White Bear*) I sent the Waiter for Mr. *Birch* the Town-Clerk, who (when he came and understood what Business I was come upon) advised me not to attempt taking of Mr. *Chandler* over Night, but desired me to let him take the

Judge's

Judge's Warrant home, and he would prepare the Mayor's Warrant and the Commitment, and get two Constables that he knew, and every thing should be ready by Seven o'Clock in the Morning; which he accordingly did, and the next Morning between Seven and Eight he came to our Inn, and brought the two Constables with him, though he had not told them the Busines they came about, but left that to me; and the very Moment I mention'd Mr. *Chandler*'s Name, one of the Constables (as I thought) seemed to be a good deal affected, who, as we heard afterwards, was a Person with whom Mr. *Chandler* had cultivated an intimate Acquaintance: And had I not made this Observation, I am fully persuaded Mr. *Chandler* had not been taken; for it was with some Difficulty we kept him from running before to give Mr. *Chandler* Notice. However, in less than twenty Minutes after we set out from the Inn, Mr. *Chandler* was taken, and for want of proper Securities committed to *Coventry* Gaol.

When we had seen Mr. *Chandler* safe in Gaol, I immediately wrote by that Night's Post to Mr. *Winter*, to send down (by the Return of the Post) a fresh Writ against Mr. *Chandler* for his 500*l.* (directed to the Sheriffs of *Coventry*) which Mr. *Birch* the Town-Clerk had promised me to see him charged with in Custody, and this would effectually prevent his getting any sham Bail; for soon after he was in Gaol, several Persons offer'd to give Bail; and at last a young Gentleman, an Attorney, came to me to know what Bail was required, for that he was concerned for Mr. *Chandler*; and, as it was only a Misdemeanour, we had no Right (he said) to detain him in Gaol. I acknowledged it was but a Misdemeanour, but of such a Nature, that no less than 2000*l.* Bail would be required. I must own I was greatly afraid of his being Bail'd out before

Mr. *Winter's* Writ came down : But Mr. *Birch* soon afterwards made me easy in this Particular, by telling me, that he would undertake that the Mayor should not Bail him till Mr. *Winter's* Writ came down, and then he would be very safe.

We now returned to our Inn, where we found Mr. *Chandler's* Wife waiting to speak with me. The poor Woman was in the utmost Distress, and begg'd of me to inform her what her Husband had done, to merit so hasty a Commitment to Gaol, for that he had been as good a Husband to her, ever since they were married, as any Woman would desire to have. I then told her the Cause, and ask'd her how long she had been married to Mr. *Chandler*. She told me near five Years, for that she lived Servant with Mr. *Banks* when Mr. *Chandler* came first out of the Country to be Clerk ; and that, in about half a Year afterwards, she was married to him in the *Fleet* : That soon after their Marriage she left her Place, and he took Lodgings for her in the City : That after her Husband was turn'd over to Mr. *Hill*, he took Lodgings for her in *Fleet-street*, where she continued till he was near out of his Clerkship : That after that, her Husband and she, with her Brother *Humphrey Smart*, went to *Colchester*, and took an Inn there ; and that they were actually there at the Time we enquired after him, but said she little thought we came there about any such Business as this : That afterwards they came to this Place, (*Coventry*) where they had been ever since ; and that her Husband had never been absent from her a Fortnight at any one Time ever since they were married : And I think she said they had had two Children, but were both dead. I then asked her, if (whilst they kept the Inn at *Colchester*) her Husband never made a Trip over to *Holland*. She told me he was once gone about eight Days somewhere, but she thought it was to have seen

\* seen his Friends; which was the longest Time he ever left her.

From these ingenuous Answers of Mrs. *Chandler*, we may now venture to say, that Mr. *Chandler* (at the Time he was gone from his Wife eight Days) went over to *Holland* himself, and sold the twelve Notes at *Amsterdam* to Mr. *Barent Salomons* in the Name of *John Smith* the 31<sup>st</sup> of *October* 1748. O.S. and that when Mr. *Winter* saw him ride out of the Inn at *Colchester* in *October* 1748, he was going on this very Busines, and had the twelve Notes (in all Probability) at that Time in his Pocket. What induces me to believe this, is, that not long after Mr. *Winter* saw Mr. *Chandler* at *Colchester*, and before he was thoroughly persuaded that he was not robbed, I dined with Mr. *Winter* in *Dartmouth-Street*, and I remember both he and Mrs. *Winter* then said, that when they called after Mr. *Chandler* out of the Window at the *White-Hart* at *Colchester*, on seeing him ride out of the Inn on the other Side of the Way, he came up to them and told them an odd Story of riding Eighty Miles the Day before after a Relation that was dangerously ill; and that he was going again, and seem'd in a great deal of Confusion, which they imputed to the Concern he was in for his Relation. We now wanted only to know whether Mr. *Chandler* was the Person who sold the Notes in *Holland*: But this we could not be certain of, till Mr. *Casson* had seen Mr. *Chandler*; and as Mr. *Casson* was about this Time going to *Holland* (or in *Holland*) we deferr'd it till the next Assizes at *Abingdon*, when we should be obliged to have Mr. *Casson* there as a Witness.

Mr. *Chandler*, when he found himself charged with Mr. *Winter's* Action for 500*l*, wrote several Letters to his Father, and to Friends of his in Town, to represent his Case to his Father, to beg of him for God's Sake to come or send some of his Relations

tions to bail him ; for that Mr. *Wise* had represented him (in *Coventry*) as a very great Rogue, and that he was put in Irons and used like a Felon. However, his Father never came or sent ; and, from his Behaviour to his Son from that Time to this, I have great Reason to believe he then thought him a much greater Rogue than I had represented him.

Mr. *Chandler* being now secure in *Coventry Gaol*, and it drawing towards *Midsummer*, I went up to Town to get our Witnesses ready, and every Thing prepared against the Assizes. And now it was that Mr. *Hill* and I traced the Note, N° 196, from the Bank to Mr. *Tufley's* Shop (a Silversmith in *Cannon-Street*). But Mr. *Tufley*, at this Time, could remember nothing of the Note, or how he came by it. We then ask'd him, if he did not keep a Day-Book of what Things he sold in his Shop ; he told us he did keep a Book, but that he did not enter every Thing at the very Time he sold them ; but that he would look over his Accounts with his Workmen, and if we would call another Time he might be able to tell us if he sold any thing of any Consequence that Day. We told him that the Day he received this Note was a remarkable Day, (it being the very Day that the great Fire happen'd in *Cornhill*.) I went myself in a Day or two afterwards to Mr. *Tufley*, who then told me that he sold nothing that Day but a Tea-Spoon and a Tankard ; and that he had some Idea of the Person to whom he sold the Tankard ; that he was a young Person, and had on a Great Coat and Boots, as he thought, but that he could not be certain : But that wherever the Tankard was, if he was to see it again he should know it, and could swear to it by the Maker's Mark ; and at the same Time shew'd me the Mark.

We then sent down a Writ of *Habeas Corpus* to *Coventry*, in order to remove Mr. *Chandler* from *Coventry* to *Reading Gaol*, to take his Tryal at the ensuing

ensuing Assizes at *Abingdon*: And on my coming home about the 2d of July, 1750, I receiv'd a Letter from Mr. *Birch*, the Town-Clerk of *Coventry*, to desire that I would meet the Sheriffs of *Coventry* and their Officers, who would be at *Reading* with Mr. *Chandler* themselves on the *Thursday* next by Noon; for that they did not care to trust Mr. *Chandler* even with their own Officers, he being charged in their Custody with two considerable Actions. Accordingly I went and met them, and spent some little Time with them at their Inn at *Reading*; when I asked them what Mr. *Chandler* had done with all his Goods, for that I believed he had some Plate. They told me his Wife, and Mr. *Smart*, her Brother, had sold most of his Goods. And one of the Sheriff's Officers told me he knew a Friend of his, one Mr. *Thomas Remmington*, that had bought two Silver Tankards which were Mr. *Chandler*'s. I then desir'd him when he got home to get his Friend to shew the Tankards to Mr. *Birch*; and if either of the Tankards had any particular Marks about them, to desire Mr. *Birch* to send me a Line by the next Post: And accordingly by the very next Post I receiv'd the following Letter.

SIR,  
Coventry, 8<sup>th</sup> July, 1750.  
I Am very glad the Sheriffs have deliver'd up  
*Thomas Chandler* safe to *Reading* Gaol. MR.  
Burbury, one of the Sheriff's Officers, has just now  
shew'd me one of the Tankards which was *Chan-  
dler*'s, mark'd thus [T M] on the Outside the Han-  
dle, and within-side the Lid, of which he says  
you desir'd a Line by this Post, from

SIR,  
Your most obedient Servant,  
JA. BIRCH.

I was

I was the more pleased at receiving this Letter, as I remember'd the Mark which Mr. *Tusley* shew'd me in his Shop was like the Mark in the Letter. And as Mr. *Caffon* was at this Time but just gone to *Holland*, though we had served him with a *Subpæna*, and he had promised to return in Time; yet we could not be certain but that he might be detain'd by contrary Winds. Upon this I immediately went to Town again; and as soon as Mr. *Tusley* saw the Mark in the above Letter, he said he was sure that this Tankard was the same that he sold the 25<sup>th</sup> of *March*; and that all the Tankards in his Shop were marked with the same Letters, and in the same Places. Mr. *Hill* and I went now to the *Fleet* to enquire of Mr. *Gauntlet*, the Linnen-Draper, (who was now a Bankrupt) if he knew where his late Servant, Mr. *Sills*, was, who carried the other 100*l.* Note, N° 195, to the Bank for Mr. *Chandler*. Mr. *Gauntlet* said he was somewhere abroad, but that he remember'd Mr. *Chandler*'s sending Mr. *Sills* with a Note for 100*l.* to the Bank: And afterwards told us, That if we would but enquire at the great Lace-Shop in *Ludgate-Street*, we might hear where *Sills* was; for he went from thence with their Recommendation. We there got a Direction to him at *Rotterdam*; and by that Night's Post wrote over to Mr. *Caffon* to desire him to find him out; and if he could agree with him, to bring him over with him. We then made out a *Subpæna*, and sent it down to be served on Mr. *Remmington*, who bought the Tankard, to attend at the Assizes with it. I then came home, and about a Week before the Assizes the following Notice was left at my House:

*The KING**against*

Thomas Chandler. } M R. *Wise*, take Notice,  
 That the Defendant, who  
 is a Prisoner in *Reading Gaol* in the County of *Berks*,  
 intends to take his Tryal at the next Assizes to be  
 held in and for the said County, to answer a Bill  
 of Indictment found against him at the last Assizes  
 for the County aforesaid, for wilful and corrupt  
 Perjury. I am,

*Yours, &c.**White-Chapel,**July 14, 1750.*

HEN. ROBINS,

*Attorney for the Defendant.*

And about four or five Days after, being but  
 two Days before the Assizes, I receiy'd the follow-  
 ing Countermand :

*The KING**against*

Thomas Chandler. } M R. *Edward Wise*, take No-  
 tice, that I do hereby  
 countermand Notice of Tryal in this Cause, from

*Your Humble Servant,**July 18,**1750.*

HEN. ROBINS,

*Attorney for the Defendant.*

When I received the above Countermand, (as I  
 knew the bringing down all our Witnesses to *Abing-  
 don* would be attended with so large an Expence)  
 I dispatched a Messenger to *London* to my Agent,  
 Mr. *Palmer*, and Mr. *Hill*, to let them know it,  
 and to consult whether, (as his Attorney had given  
 us such a formal Notice and Countermand) if we  
 should not have our Witnesses there, Mr. *Chandler*  
 could put himself upon his Tryal. They sent me  
 down Word, that this was a common *Old-Bailey*  
 Trick; and that many Persons had been acquitted

there for Felonies by the same Stratagem ; and let the Cost be what it would, we must be ready with all our Witnesses, who were prepared for setting out the next Day, and Coaches, &c. hired for bringing them down. The Monday following I went to *Abingdon*, and met all our Witnesses from *London* at the *Crown and Thistle*, where I was very glad to see them, especially my old Friend Mr. *Casson* (who as soon as he came from *Holland*, was offered a Purse to keep out of the Way, but had Honour and Honesty enough to refuse it.) I had not been long there before Mr. *Remmington*, our other Witness from *Coventry*, with Mr. *Chandler's* Tankard came to us ; so that now we were fully prepared to face Mr. *Chandler*, and all his Witnesses, which were no less than six or seven, whom he had subpoena'd from *Colchester*, but what to prove I can't imagine. We were all impatient for Mr. *Casson* to have a Sight of Mr. *Chandler*, and (Mr. *Wiseman* the Gaoler having given us Notice about a Quarter of an Hour before he carried the Prisoners to the Hall) we placed ourselves in a proper Room for that Purpose ; and the Moment Mr. *Casson* saw Mr. *Chandler*, he said he was certain that he was the very Man who sold the Twelve Notes in *Holland* to Mr. *Barent Salomons* by the Name of *John Smith*, and came over with him from thence ; and that he would swear it. Mr. *Casson* also told us, that he went from *Rotterdam* to *Amsterdam*, and had taken an Extract out of Mr. *Salomons's* Book which he had in his Pocket ; and that he had also seen Mr. *Sills* at *Rotterdam* ; who told him, that he very well remember'd going to pay the 100*l.* Note, N° 195, from his Master's, Mr. *Gauntlet's*, Shop to the Bank for Mr. *Chandler* : But could not venture to come to *England* for fear of being arrested.

We have now fairly traced all the Fifteen Notes into the Bank, from Mr. *Chandler's* own Hands, since he swore

swore that he was robbed of them; and Mr. *Lewin*, the Secretary of the Bank, had all the Fifteen Identical Notes at this very Time in his Pocket. And if Mr. *Chandler* had thought fit to have put himself upon his Tryal there, we were admirably well prepared to have convicted him: But on *Wednesday* Morning he thought better of it; and, notwithstanding he had subpœna'd six or seven Witnesses from *Colchester*) travers'd the Indictment, which (as by Law he was entitled to do) we could not prevent; but not being able to get Bail (though he had sent a Post-Chaise down to his Father and Friends in *Wiltshire* for that Purpose) he was order'd back to *Reading* Gaol by the Judge's Calendar in the following Manner:

'*Thomas Chandler* to remain, to enter into a Recognition, himself to be bound in 500*l.* and two Sureties in 250*l.* each, before two Justices of the Peace for the County, residing in or near *Reading*, to prosecute his Traverse with Effect to an Indictment preferred against him at the last Lent Assizes for wilful and corrupt Perjury, to which he has pleaded not guilty, and not to depart the Court without Licence. Ten Days Notice of which Bail, and the Time and Place of taking the same, to be given to Mr. *Edward Wise*, Attorney at Law at *Wokingham*.'

Mr. *Chandler* being brought back to *Reading* Gaol again, in Obedience to the above Order, and not being able to get such Bail as he imagined I should approve, he thought himself now in a much worse Situation than ever; for he greatly depended on his Father, or some of his Father's Friends becoming Bail for him, rather than to suffer him to lay half a Year longer in *Reading* Gaol.

But as Mr. *Chandler*'s Father had quite given his Son up to Justice, and neither came, nor sent to him during all the Time he had been in Gaol, the following wicked and dangerous Scheme was propos'd by Mr. *Chandler* and his Agents: *First*, to have suborned false Witnesses to have sworn a fictitious Felony against Mr. *Chandler* in *Middlesex*.

*Secondly*, To have got an Indictment found against him at the *Old-Bailey* for such Felony.

*Thirdly*, To have got a Writ of *Habeas Corpus* to have removed him, in order to have taken his Tryal at the *Old-Bailey*.

And *Lastly*, To have hired eight or ten Ruffians to have met the Gaoler and his Prisoner in some convenient Place on the Road, and there by Dint of Arms to have rescued him, and carried him clear off; and by that Means to have evaded the Punishment of the Pillory, which Mr. *Chandler* so much dreaded. Surely this was a very friendly Scheme in them, to run so great a Risque of the Pillory, or some worse Punishment, themselves, in order to save Mr. *Chandler* from it: And in which, in all Probability, they would have succeeded, had not Mr. *Wiseman*, the Gaoler, been accidentally known to the Wife of the Gentleman who was first retained and consulted on this Occasion. And if they had, the Consequences might have been very fatal, as Mr. *Wiseman* would not have parted with his Prisoner so readily as they might have imagined. In order therefore to shew that such a Scheme was actually on foot, and to justify Mr. *Wiseman*, who has been greatly complained of to the Judges for putting Mr. *Chandler* in heavy Irons, I have at his Request inserted the three following Letters.

To Mr. Wiseman, Keeper of the Prison in Reading,  
Berks.

S I R,

Though I am unknown to you, yet my Wife  
(who was the Widow of Mr. John Bodley of  
*Oxford and Kidlington*) is not. She has desir'd  
me to let you know the following Discovery con-  
cerning one *Chandler*, who is in your Custody :  
I was in Company with Mr. *Robins*, who is At-  
torney for *Chandler*; when, among other Things,  
he asked me whether it was practicable for to get  
a Bill of Indictment in the County of *Middlesex*  
for single Felony, against a Person in *Reading*  
*Gaol*, who is prosecuted by the County for Perju-  
ry ; and then he related the whole Case. I was  
amazed at such an Intention, and said I appre-  
hended it would be difficult to find any body  
hardy enough to prove before the Grand Jury  
such a Felony. He said, that if such a Prosecu-  
tion (to which *Chandler* should plead Guilty)  
would skreen him from being tried in your Coun-  
ty, he would engage to find those who, for Mo-  
ney, would go through Stitch (which was his  
Expression). I told him that since no Money was  
wanting, it would be worth his while to try the  
Experiment, and so left him. Now, Sir, if the  
Gentlemen who are concerned in bringing *Chan-*  
*dler* to Justice, think convenient to correspond  
with me, I will endeavour to find out every Thing  
that *Robins*, &c. are doing. I need not recom-  
mend Secrecy to you in this Affair. Mrs. *Moore*  
desires to be recommended to you. I am,

S I R,

London, Your most bumble Servant,  
Aug. 21, 1750. HALDANBY MOORE.

P. S. Direct for me at the Rainbow Coffee-  
House, Ludgate-Hill.

To

To Mr. John Wiseman, Keeper of the Prison in  
Reading, Berks.

SIR,

THE Persons who would have suborned false Evidence with respect to *Thomas Chandler*, and of which I gave you an Account the 23<sup>d</sup> of August last, will this next Sessions (which begins the 16<sup>th</sup> of this Instant) be brought to Justice. The Bill of Indictment against them is now before Counsel, who say that it is necessary to have a true Copy of *Chandler's* Commitment. When I had the Pleasure of seeing Mr. Wise, the latter End of the last Term, he told me that any Service either you or he could do, in order to bring those bad People to Justice, should not be wanting. Therefore if you will be so good to send by the next Post a true Copy of the Commitment, directed to Mr. Charles Toothacre, Attorney, at the Old Bailey Coffee-house in the Old Bailey, it will be of great Use. Both Mrs. Moore and I wish you and yours the Compliments of the Season, in the fullest Extent. I am,

SIR,

Your very humble Servant,

*London,*

5<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1750.

HALDANBY MOORE.

To Mr. John Wiseman, Keeper of the Prison in  
Reading, Berks.

SIR,

MR. Toothacre received yours of the 6<sup>th</sup> instant, with a Copy of *Chandler's* Commitment. I must again trouble you, for our Council says, that a Copy of the *Habeas Corpus* on which *Chandler* was removed to *Reading Gaol*, and the Return to it, is absolutely necessary. There-

fore

fore I beg the Favour that you will send it as before directed, with as much Speed as you can. I don't doubt but soon to give you an Account of the Conviction of those Villains, and am,

SIR,

*Your most obliged humble Servant,*

London,

12<sup>th</sup> inst. Jan. 1750.

HALD. MOORE.

Mr. *Wiseman* sent every thing required by the above Letters, and was in great Expectation for some time of receiving the Account promised him in the last; but as he has never heard from his Correspondent since, concludes that the Affair is quite over. What was the Cause of this Prosecution's being dropp'd, which was seemingly carried on with so great Spirit, I shall leave to every Person who reads the above three Letters to guess. And now having brought Mr. *Chandler* to the Bar, (notwithstanding all the subtil Stratagemis and Artifices made use of by him and his Agents to prevent it) I shall proceed to his Tryal:

Mr. *Chandler* made an Objection to his being tried at this Assizes, and applied to the Judge to put it off till the next Assizes, alledging that Mr. *Robins* (his Solicitor) had got a good deal of his Money, in order to have *Subpœna'd* some material Witnesses for him; and that he promised him faith, fully to come, but was not; and said that he could get the Turnkey of the Gaol to make an Affidavit of these Facts. But as no Affidavit was ready in Court, the Jury were sworn; and Mr. *Naires*, one of the Counsel for the Prosecutors, opened the Indictment, which charged,

THAT the Prisoner, on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 1748, made an Information in Writing before *James Hayes*, Esq; one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace

Peace for the County of Berks, in which the Prisoner swore, that on Thursday the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 1747, between Five and Six in the Afternoon, he was stopp'd between *Hare-Hatch* and *Twyford*, on the Road to *Reading*, by three Men on Foot, who laid hold of his Horse's Bridle, presented a Pistol to him, and took from him Five Guineas in Gold, and Twenty Shillings and upwards in Silver; but not being satisfied therewith, they obliged him to dismount, and took him into a Pit in a Field adjoining to the Highway, where they searched his Cloaths, pull'd off his Boots, and untied his Garters in order to pull off his Stockings, when they found fifteen Bank Notes of the Value of 960*l.* tied up in two little Canvas Bags under his Stockings and Garters, which they then took from him, together with a Silver Watch of the Value of 4*l.* afrer which he put on his Boots again, and was going into the Road to look after his Horse, when the Men order'd him to come back, and tied his Hands and Legs, and laid him down in a Hole in the Pit, and threaten'd to shoot him in case he made any Noise. All which Facts the Indictment alledged to be false, and that the Prisoner therefore on the said 12<sup>th</sup> of May 1748 did on his Oath commit wilful and corrupt Perjury.

Mr. *Bathurst* then opened this complicated Scene of Iniquity to the Jury in an admirable Speech, wherein he gradually enforced every Circumstance, and every Step taken by the Prisoner, with such Spirit and Energy, that it would have been a great Addition to this Tryal to have seen it in his own Words; and which I should have taken care to have had, if I had in the least thought, at that Time, of making this Affair publick.

The Facts and Substance of which Speech were,  
That the Prisoner having agreed with one Mrs.  
*Strait of Salisbury* to lend her 1000*l.* on a Mort-  
gage

gage of an Estate in *Wiltshire*, on which there was a prior Mortgage of 500*l.* (which was to be paid off out of the 1000*l.*) an Assignment of the Mortgage was prepared by the Prisoner, and sent down to *Salisbury* for Mrs. *Strait's* Perusal; and the Prisoner appointed to meet the Parties, and to pay them the Money at *Enford* in *Wilts* on *Lady-Day* 1748.

That on the 23<sup>d</sup> of *March* 1747, the Prisoner took out several small Notes at the Bank, but when he came to put up the same with some other Notes, amounting to about 900*l.* being chiefly 20*l.* and 50*l.* Notes, in two little Canvas Bags, to be tied under his Garters, (being the Method he proposed to carry them down in for Safety) he found they made too great a Bundle, and that it might be easily felt there was something extraordinary there. That therefore the Prisoner, on the 24<sup>th</sup> of *March* 1747, in the Morning, carried several of the small Notes back to the Bank, together with some Cash, making together 440*l.* and in Exchange for the Notes and Cash took out two Notes, one for 400*l.* and the other for 40*l.* both payable to *Thomas Brown*.

That the Prisoner, in his Return from the Bank to *Clifford's Inn* on the 24<sup>th</sup> of *March*, call'd in at the Shop of Sir *Richard Hoare* the Banker in *Fleet-street*, and desired the Clerk, in the Name of Mr. *Hill*, with whom he was then Clerk, to exchange the above 400*l.* Note into smaller Notes for him; which Mr. *William Atkinson*, one of Mr. *Hoare's* Clerks, accordingly did, as he knew him to be Clerk to Mr. *Hill*, and gave the Prisoner three Notes in Exchange, one of 200*l.* and two of 100*l.* each; but that the Prisoner on his Return to his Master told him, that the Bank Clerks refused to make him out larger Notes for his small ones which he had taken out the Day before, but that he had

changed the small Notes with a Person he met accidentally at the Bank, who wanted small Notes for large ones.

That Mr. *Hill* then took down the Numbers, Dates, and Sums of those three Notes and the 40*l.* Note, together with the several other Notes, being fifteen in Number, and amounting to 960*l.* which the Prisoner put up in two Canvas Bags, and tied them under his Garters, and set out of Town for *Wiltshire* between Eleven and Twelve o'Clock at Noon.

That on the 25<sup>th</sup> of *March* the Prisoner return'd to *London*, and informed his Master he had been robbed in the manner set forth in the Information; whereupon his Master gave him the Memorandum he had taken the Day before of the Numbers, Dates, and Sums of the Notes, and sent him to the Bank to stop Payment; but instead thereof the Prisoner went to the Shop of Mr. *Tufley* a Silver-smith in *Cannon-Street*, and bought of him a Silver Tankard, and exchanged with him a Bank Note for 100*l.* being one of the Notes he pretended to be robbed of, and which he had received the Day before at Mr. *Hoare's* Shop; and on his Return to his Master told him the Bank did no Business that Day, because of the Hurry there was in the City on account of the great Fire in *Cornhill*, which happened the Night before, but that he must go again the next Morning to stop the Notes. That Mr. *Hill* then asked the Prisoner for the Paper, on which he had taken down the Numbers, &c. of the said Notes; to which the Prisoner replied, he had left it with the Clerks of the Bank who were to stop the Notes, but that he had taken an exact Copy of it; which was false, for in the mean time the Prisoner had made a fictitious Copy thereof, in which he had altered the Numbers and Dates of three of the Notes, amounting to 400*l.*

That

That the next Morning the Prisoner applied again to the Bank to stop Payment of the fifteen Notes; but three of the Notes being wrong described in such fictitious Copy, the Bank could only stop Payment of twelve of the Notes, amounting to 560*l.* That the Prisoner, on his Return, told his Master of the Mistake in the Description of three of the Notes; whereupon he sent the Prisoner back to the Bank to enquire after the original Paper, on which he had taken the Numbers, &c. of the Notes; but the Prisoner, on his Return, told his Master that the Clerks could not find it, and said they never kept such Papers after they had made an Entry of them.

That the three Notes, the Payment whereof was not stopp'd at the Bank, were shortly after received by the Prisoner's Friends, *viz.* the Note for 200*l.* was received at the Bank by Mr. *Humphrey Smart*, (who is the Prisoner's Brother-in-Law) on the 6<sup>th</sup> of *April* 1748: One of the Notes for 100*l.* was received at the Bank on the 17<sup>th</sup> of *May* 1748, by Mr. *Samuel Sills*, Shop-man to Mr. *Gauntlet*, a Linen-Draper in *London*, with whom the Prisoner was intimate, and who was sent by the Prisoner to receive the same; and the other Note for 100*l.* was paid to Mr. *Tufley* by the Prisoner himself, as before mentioned.

That the Prisoner afterwards proceeded to try his Cause against the Hundred; and at the Assizes held at *Abingdon* the 18<sup>th</sup> of *July* 1748, after a Tryal by a Special Jury, which held upwards of twelve Hours, obtained a Verdict for 970*l.* subject to a Case reserved for the Opinion of the Court of *Common Pleas*, concerning the Sufficiency of the Description of the Bank Notes in the *London Gazette*; which Case was afterwards decided in favour of the Hundred.

That on the 20<sup>th</sup> of *October* 1748, the Prisoner (who then went by the Name of *John Smith*) sold the other twelve Notes, the Payment whereof he had stopp'd, to Mr. *Barent Salomons*, a Jew Banker in *Amsterdam*, who in the Beginning of *November* 1748 remitted the same to Mr. *Nathan Salomons* in *London*, who sent them to the Bank for Payment; but the Bank stopp'd the Payment thereof for some Time, till an Enquiry was made in *Holland* concerning them, and Mr. *Barent Salomons* had sent over an Affidavit of his having paid a valuable Consideration for them.

That the Prisoner, after he had sold the Notes in *Holland*, brought over the whole Amount thereof in Cash, the greatest Part whereof was in Silver; and that Mr. *Isaac Caffon*, who is a *Holland* Merchant, and lives in *London*, came over in the Packet with the Prisoner, and assisted him in carrying the Money to the Ship.

To prove which Case, the first Witness that was called was *William Hill*, who deposed, That the Prisoner had been his Clerk about two Years, when the Prisoner informed him that he had agreed to lend 1000*l.* to Mrs. *Straight of Salisbury* on Mortgage, and that the Mortgage-Deed was prepared in *London*, and sent down to Mrs. *Straight*.

That the Prisoner, on the 23<sup>d</sup> of *March*, went to the Bank, and took out several small Notes; but finding it would be difficult to carry so many Notes under his Garters, as he proposed, went the next Morning, being the 24<sup>th</sup>, to the Bank, in order to change some small Notes and Cash into larger ones. When the Prisoner returned from the Bank, he told the Witness, that the Clerks being in a Hurry of Business were displeased at his coming so often, and told him that he did not know his own Mind, and, after they had made him out the 40*l.* Note, refused

refused to change the other Notes ; but that he had met a Man in the Bank who wanted to change three large Notes for small ones for 400*l.* which was just his Sum, and that he had changed them with him.

That the Prisoner was possessed of fifteen Bank Notes, to the Value of 960*l.* the Numbers, Dates, and Sums whereof the Witness took an Account of on the 24<sup>th</sup> of *March* in the Morning : That about Noon the Prisoner set out for *Wiltshire*, but returned the next Day, and said he had been robb'd of all the Bank Notes, five Guineas in Gold, twenty Shillings in Silver, and a Silver Watch. The Witness then gave the Prisoner the Memorandum he had taken of the Notes before the Prisoner went out of Town, and sent him with the same to the Bank, in order to have the Notes stopp'd. The Prisoner return'd from the Bank, and said, that the Fire that had happen'd that Morning in *Cornhill* was the Reason no Busines could be done that Day at the Bank. That the Witness then ask'd the Prisoner for the Memorandum of the Notes ; to which the Prisoner replied, he had left it with the Clerks at the Bank who were to stop the Notes ; but that he had taken an exact Copy of it : That the next Morning the Prisoner went again, and stopp'd twelve of the said Notes ; but said he would not stop the remaining three Notes, (which were for 200*l.*, 100*l.*, 100*l.*) because there was a Mistake in the Memorandum about the Numbers and Dates, the Bank Books not agreeing therewith : Upon which the Witness sent the Prisoner back to the Bank for the original Account he had taken of those Notes ; but the Prisoner on his Return told the Witness, that the Clerks could not find it, and told him they never kept such Things after they had made an Entry of them. It afterwards appeared, that the Account of the Notes left at the Bank by the Prisoner was not that taken by Mr. *Hill*,

but

but a Copy wrote by another Hand, in which the Numbers and Dates of the three Notes for 200*l.*, 100*l.*, and 100*l.*, were varied as follows:

<i>Real Notes.</i>	<i>Fictitious Notes.</i>
	<i>l.</i>
No. 102. To Mess. Freame & and Co. 28th Jan. 1747. 5 200	No. 112. To Mess. Freame & and Co. 20th Jan. 1747. 5 200
No. 195. To Mat. Collet, & 28th Nov. 1747. 5 100	No. 159. To Mat. Collet, & 26th Nov. 1747. 5 100
No. 196. To ditto — ditto 100	No. 190. To ditto — ditto 100

This Witness also proved the Information before Mr. Hayes, on which the Prisoner was indicted; and likewise the Advertisement in the several Newspapers, which he examined with the Prisoner before it was put in; all which were produced in Court.

The next Witness was, Mr. Robert Lewin, Secretary to the Bank of England, who gave an Account by an Extract from the Bank Books, that on the 23<sup>d</sup> of March 1747, there were several Notes brought into the Bank to the Amount of 543*l.* 18*s.* and several other Notes issued out for the same Sum, as underwritten.

*Notes brought into the Bank the 23d of March 1747.*

	<i>l. s. d.</i>
Nº. 402. To Jos. Hindman, Jan. 13, 1747. —	43 18 0
356. To Henry Taylor, March 21, —	100 00 0
136. To Campbell and C°. March 19. —	200 00 0
137. To ditto, —	200 00 0
	<hr/>
	<i>l. 543 18 0</i>

The three last of which Notes the Prisoner received of Mr. Winter the Day before, being 500*l.*, the Consideration of his Mortgage to Mr. Winter.

*Notes taken out of the Bank on the 23d of March 1747, in exchange for the above.*

	<i>l. s. d.</i>
Nº. 234. To Henry Taylor, March 23, 1747. —	50 00 0
235. To ditto, ditto, —	50 00 0
	<hr/>
Carried over	<i>l. 100 00 0</i>
	<i>Nº. 236.</i>

	Brought over	L.	100 00 0
Nº. 236. To <i>Henry Taylor</i> , March 23, 1747,	ditto,	50	00 0
237. To ditto,	ditto,	50	00 0
238. To ditto,	ditto,	50	00 0
239. To ditto,	ditto,	50	00 0
240. To ditto,	ditto,	50	00 0
241. To ditto,	ditto,	50	00 0
242. To ditto,	ditto,	20	00 0
243. To ditto,	ditto,	20	00 0
244. To ditto,	ditto,	20	00 0
245. To ditto,	ditto,	20	00 0
246. To ditto,	ditto,	20	00 0
247. To ditto,	ditto,	20	18 0
248. To ditto,	ditto,	23	00 0
		L.	543 18 0

That the next Day, being the 24<sup>th</sup> of *March*, the several under-written Notes were brought to the Bank, amounting to 349 *l.* 18 *s.*: That the Person who brought them paid in Money 90 *l.* 2 *s.* making together 440 *l.*; for which two Notes were made out payable to *Thomas Brown*, one for 400 *l.*, and the other for 40 *l.*, as under-written.

*Notes brought into the Bank on the 24th of March, 1747.*

		<i>l. s. d.</i>
Nº. 10. To <i>Geo. Dowdeswell</i> , May 18, 1747.		20 00 0
105. To <i>Richard Bullock</i> , Feb. 9, 1747.		20 00 0
243. To <i>Matth. Collet</i> , Feb. 9, 1746.	—	20 00 0
140. To ditto, — March 9, 1747.		20 00 0
115. To <i>Tho. Brown</i> , March 23, 1747.		20 00 0
116. To ditto, ditto,	—	20 00 0
117. To ditto, ditto,	—	20 00 0
118. To ditto, ditto,	—	20 00 0
119. To ditto, ditto,	—	20 00 0
120. To ditto, ditto,	—	20 00 0
242. To <i>Henry Taylor</i> , ditto,	—	20 00 0
243. To ditto, ditto,	—	20 00 0
244. To ditto, ditto,	—	20 00 0
245. To ditto, ditto,	—	20 00 0
246. To ditto, ditto,	—	20 00 0

Carried over L. 306 00 0

Nº. 247.

	Brought over	£.	306 00 0
Nº. 247. To ditto,	ditto,	—	20 18 0
248. To ditto,	ditto,	—	23 00 0
		£.	349 18 0
Cash paid in		—	90 02 0
		£.	440 00 0

*Notes taken out of the Bank on the 24th of March, 1747, in exchange for the above.*

Nº. 2. To Thomas Brown, March 24, 1747.	—	400 00 8
3. To ditto,	ditto,	—
		40 00 0
		£. 440 00 0

That upon the 26<sup>th</sup> of March 1748, the Prisoner came to the Bank, and applied to have Payment stopt of the fifteen following Notes, which he pretended to have been robbed of, viz.

To	£.
Nº. 112. Mess. Freame and Co. Jan. 20, 1747,	200
— 159. Matth. Collet, Nov. 26, 1747,	100
— 190. Ditto, ditto,	100
— 187. George Wolley, Feb. 11, 1747,	30
— 144. James Reynolds, Dec. 21, 1747,	40
— 98. Thomas Fendal, March 4, 1747,	50
— 234. Henry Taylor, March 23, 1747,	50
— 235. Ditto, ditto,	50
— 236. Ditto, ditto,	50
— 237. Ditto, ditto,	50
— 238. Ditto, ditto,	50
— 239. Ditto, ditto,	50
— 240. Ditto, ditto,	50
— 241. Ditto, ditto,	50
— 3. Thomas Brown, March 24, 1747,	40

That the Twelve last of the above Fifteen Notes were stopt, but as to the three first Notes of 200 £, 100 £, and 100 £, it did not appear by the Bank Books that any such Notes were made out, and consequently no Stop could be made of them.

Mr. William Atkinson, Clerk to Sir Richard Hoare, was the next Witness, who said, that he knew the Prisoner

Prisoner, and remember'd, that on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 1747, he came to Sir Richard Hoare's Shop, in the Name of Mr. Hill, his Master, and desir'd Change for a Bank Note of 400*l.* which had been taken out that Morning, N° 2, payable to Thomas Brown, for which Note the Witness gave the Prisoner Three other Bank Notes, *viz.*

N° 102. To Meff. <i>Freame</i> and C°,	28 <sup>th</sup> Ja-	200
<i>nuary</i> 1747.	—	
195. To Mr. Matt. <i>Collett</i> ,	28 <sup>th</sup> Nov. 1747.	100
196. To <i>ditto</i>	—	100

Mr. *Lewin* being call'd again, then informed the Court, that the Note, N° 102, payable to *Freame* and Company for 200*l.* was paid at the Bank the 6<sup>th</sup> of April 1748, to *Humphrey Smart*; the other Note, N° 195, for 100*l.* was paid at the Bank the 17<sup>th</sup> of May 1748, to *Samuel Sills*; and the other Note, N° 196, was brought the 30<sup>th</sup> of March 1748 by Mr. *William Palmer*, who had Credit in his Bank Book for it.

The next Witness was Mr. *William Tufley*, a Silver-Smith in Cannon-Street; who deposed, That on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 1748, he sold a Silver Tankard to a Person in a Great Coat and brown Wig, who he verily believ'd was the Prisoner at the Bar; and that he produced a Bank Note of 100*l.* which the Witness could not change, but went to his Neighbour, Mr. *Joseph Swift*, who gave him Money for it; which the Witness gave to the Person after deducting the Price of the Tankard. The Tankard being produc'd in Court, Mr. *Tufley* swore, that it was the same he sold on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 1748, and swore positively to the Note, N° 196, payable to *Matt. Collett*, dated 28<sup>th</sup> of November 1747, for 100*l.* that was changed on that Occasion; which was one of those Notes

which the Prisoner had in exchange for the 400*l.*  
at Sir Richard Hoare's Shop.

Mr. Joseph Swift, the next Witness, deposed, That he remembred very well his changing the 100*l.* Note, and the Transaction that occasion'd it: That he is sure that the Note N° 196, produced to him in Court, was the Note that Mr. Tusley brought to him to be changed, he having wrote Mr. Tusley's Name and the Day of the Month on the Back of the Note at the Time he receiv'd it, which Note the Witness afterwards paid away to Mr. William Palmer.

The next Witness was Thomas Remmington, who said the Prisoner kept a Publick House in Coventry; and that he had the Tankard, which was sold by Mr. Tusley and produced in Court, from the Prisoner in part of a Debt the Prisoner owed him, which the Prisoner admitted.

The next Witness was Mr. Isaac Caffon, who said he knew the Prisoner at the Bar to be the very Person that he saw at Rotterdam on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October 1748, O. S. who said he came thither on Account of his being bound for a Debt of another Person: That he went by the Name of John Smith, and the Prisoner told him he had been at Amsterdam to change some Bank Bills; and that he had negotiated them with Mr. Barent Salomons, a Banker there: That the Prisoner had a Quantity of Silver, which the Witness believed amounted to between three and four hundred Pounds; and that he had about 150*l.* in Ducats and Spanish Pistoles: That great Part of this Silver was in the Prisoner's Great-Coat Pockets, and, being so heavy, broke down both his Pockets before they had got far from his Lodgings: That he carried the Prisoner's Pockets for

for him to *Delft*, and there procured a Rice Sack, and hired a Wheel-Barrow, and assisted the Prisoner with the Money to the *Delft* Scoute: That they then got a Chest and put the Money in; and that the Prisoner came from *Holland* in the same Ship with the Witness to *Harwick*, where he ask'd him to go with him to the Post-Office, which the Prisoner refused: That he then left him on board the Packet at *Harwick*, and never saw him after till the Assizes at *Abingdon* in *July* last, when he attended as a Witness against the Prisoner, who then put off his Trial till the present Assizes.

The next Witness was Mr. *Nathan Salomons*, who deposed, That his Father Mr. *Barent Salomons* was a great Remitter in *Amsterdam*: That on the 24<sup>th</sup> of *October* 1748, O. S. he received from his Father nine Bank Notes, amounting to 410*l*, which he gave the Description of.

This Witness farther deposed, That in another Letter of the same Date he received from Mr. *Isaac Barent Salomons*, his Brother, three Notes for 50*l*. each, amounting together to 560*l*. which twelve Notes appear to be the very same Notes stopp'd at the Bank by the Prisoner, agreeing in the Sums, Numbers, Dates, and every other Particular. All which Notes were produced in Court by the Secretary of the Bank, and by the Witness proved to be the identical Notes received by him from *Holland*.

The Witness farther deposed, That he paid these twelve Notes to his Bankers *Freame* and *Barclay*, who were much surprized to find, when they sent them to the Bank, that Payment was stopp'd. Hereupon the Witness, as he was advised, wrote to *Holland* for an Affidavit, which was sent from *Barent Salomons*, setting forth the whole Transaction with the Prisoner; which being satisfactory to the Bank, the Stop was taken off, and the Money paid.

The

The Prisoner making no Defence, the Judge summ'd up the Evidence, whereupon the Jury brought him in *Guilty*: Upon which the Prisoner presented a Petition to the Judge in Court, praying that he might be transported, and not set in the Pillory.

The Sentence pronounced on the Prisoner was, *To be set in the Pillory the next Market-Day at Reading, from Twelve to One of the Clock, and afterwards to be transported for Seven Years*: But before the Judges left the Town, the former Part of the Sentence was changed into three Months Imprisonment; they being apprehensive, that in case the Prisoner had been set in the Pillory, he would have been murder'd by the enraged Populace.



**F I N I S.**



